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December 15, 2022

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## Mattapoisett Celebrates the Season

By Marilou Newell

December 10 was a grand day in Mattapoisett, in spite of the misty precipitation and gray skies. Two holiday events brought out community members in celebration. At noontime, a vocal concert was held in the reading room of the Mattapoisett Library.

Opera singers from the Seaglass Theater performers delighted a standing-room-only crowd. Comprised of soprano Patrice Tiedemann, who is also the artistic director, Mezzo-soprano Emily Harmon, tenor Chris Hunter, baritone Paul Soper and accompanied by Dr. Matthew Larson on the piano, the musical arrangements and pitch-perfect voices brought professional luster and set the stage for the day.

The performers, all highly talented and respected as individual singers, sang well-known holiday favorites, including show tunes with a wintery theme. As their voices soared and blended, the audience was transfixed.

Tiedemann has been a soloist with the Boston Pops and Boston Lyric Opera. Harmon recently appeared in "White Christmas" with the New Bedford Festival Theatre and was a world finalist for Jette Parker Young Artist Program at Covent Garden in London. Hunter is a master's candidate at the Boston University School of Music and has performed with the Los Angeles Opera. Soper's credits include performances with the New York Opera and Lyric Stage in Boston. Larson is the music director of Seaglass Theater Company and is a faculty member of Boston University Opera Institute. He also received a Grammy Award for his work on the movie "Fantastic Mr. Fox."

At 3:00 pm over at Shipyard Park, families gathered for the annual holiday tree lighting and festival. A dozen local restaurants donated food for merrymakers that included everything from Asian-influenced hot

***On the Cover:** Saxophone players in the Sippican Elementary School grade-level bands fire it up with festive music during Sunday's Christmas Stroll in Marion. The students kicked off the December 11 festivities by marching down Cottage Street before turning onto Front Street at the Music Hall. The event brought out hundreds as Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived via boat at Island Wharf, greeted citizens and then boarded horse-drawn carriages that offered rides around the village. Photo by Mick Colageo*

dishes to casseroles with an Italian flair. There were donuts, cookies and candy for those with a sweet tooth. And, of course, hot chocolate.

The annual event was held in partnership with the Lions Club, which collected canned foods and unwrapped toys that will be donated locally.

And although the food and fun were a big draw, the real hit of the day was the arrival of Santa Claus on a firetruck. Driving the engine bringing Santa to Shipyard Park was none other than Select Board member and Fire Department Captain Jordan Collyer.

Santa climbed down into the crowd of excited little children to take up his chair, accompanied by his wife, to hear the children's biggest wishes. (Mr. and Mrs. Claus were played by real-life marital partners Milton and Catherine Heuberger. Mrs. Claus by day is the well-known town clerk.)

In the big tent placed on the lawn of the historic park, the food aromas whetted many an appetite with food being spooned out to waiting plates by Select Board members Tyler Macallister and Jodi Bauer. Also filling those plates to overflowing was Town Administrator Mike Lorenzo.

### In This Issue

Birthdays .....	54
Classified Advertisements .....	50
Crossword & Horoscope.....	44
Happenings.....	40 & 42
Legal Advertising.....	46
Local Tide Listings .....	58
Marion Select Board Meeting .....	9
Movies & Entertainment.....	38
Obituaries .....	36
ORCTV Schedule .....	34
Police Log .....	36
Real Estate Transactions .....	57
Regional Lunch Menus .....	46

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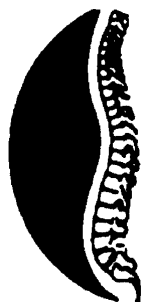


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Back outside, picture opportunities abounded with the Christmas tree fully decorated by the students of Center School. On the little stars, children placed their innocent wishes with more than one noting love and peace. The really big Adirondack hosted many a pictorial memory, as parents raised their little ones onto the oversized chair.

Walking around the park posing with families was a reindeer (Ashling McLoughlin), an elf (Jen Scott) and Frosty the Snowman (Brian Hiller.) While over in the gazebo, the Old Hammondtown Elementary School Band played traditional favorites.

One of the prime movers in pulling together all the moving parts of such a large event was Christine Richards, assistant to Town Operations. Richards said, "We are lucky to have such generous businesses." As for the work of putting on such an enormous party, she said, "Everyone pulled together a real team effort."

Many other Town Hall employees and municipal workers made the community party a big success, including the Harbormaster, Fire and Highway departments.

## Fame Is Fleeting, Even for the Famous

*Thoughts on...*

**By Dick Morgado**

Thank goodness it's gone.

When a recent essay of mine appeared here, my photo appeared with it. When asked if that would be all right, I agreed. Why not, after all, my face has appeared next to my columns before, so sure, what the heck. I now know that other contributors are obviously more humble and smarter than I. So, dear reader, I apologize to anyone whose day may have been ruined by stumbling upon my aged countenance. I had no desire to offend. I should have known better.

It didn't take long after my face appeared that one wag said they thought it was for my obituary. At least he wasn't offended. Oh, the price of fame. This is not the first time my mug has been recognized.

Once a gentleman approached me and asked if I was the fellow who wrote in the newspaper. "Yes," I

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responded. Whereupon he lambasted me up one side and down the other for having offended him and demanded an apology. Not knowing this person or what offense I had committed, I nevertheless apologized profusely, discretion being the better part of valor.

After a while, one builds up a defense to strangers approaching you, wagging their fingers inquiring about something I had written. My first thought is always to look for the baseball bat they may have hidden behind their back. One time however, my defense was premature. A white-haired older lady approached me in a library. She believed she had recognized someone she knew. I had written about a favorite teacher of mine in elementary school.

I described the teacher as "Mr. K," who was my sixth-grade teacher. I said he was a bear of a man with a little head and a mischievous grin who waddled rather than walked. He always wore a suit jacket that hung to his knees, or so it seemed. About once a week he would pick up and hold unruly students upside-down by their ankles - always boys, girls wore skirts in those days - until all the

## THE PLUMBERS

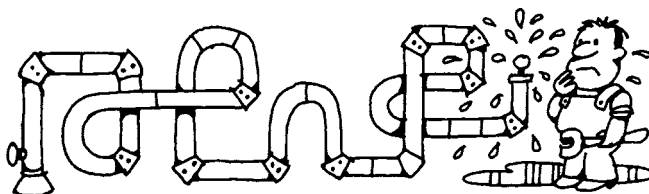
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"truck" (miscellaneous small articles of little value) fell out of their pockets. The class would roar with laughter.

Apparently, my description was right on point because she was sure she had attended graduate school with him. She was right, even though Mr. Kennedy taught in our own Mattapoisett Center School some 40 years earlier and 80 miles from that library.

I expect that sometime well-known people might wish they were recognized. An example of that happened right here in our own little village. Before there was a 7-Eleven and Dunkin Donuts near old Salty the Seahorse and before a Salvation Army outlet store vacated the location, there was an A&P grocery store.

A United States senator had a vacation home in our area where he came each weekend, presumably to get away from the madness in Washington. While driving from Connecticut one Friday evening, the senator stopped into the A&P to purchase some groceries. Being the busy man that he was with no doubt much on his mind, he forgot to bring his wallet with his identification on the drive north. Not until he reached the checkout counter did he realize his omission. His personal check was rejected, despite his protests and pleadings because it was from out of state. He left his bag of groceries on the counter and departed.

An old friend of mine, who worked at the A&P, claimed that all the while the encounter was taking place, the evening news was playing on the television in the manager's office with the senator's face front and center. Not until later did anyone realize that a participant in one of America's historic episodes was in their midst.

The entire encounter was later confirmed to be true when Senator Lowell Weicker, a member of the infamous Watergate Committee, retold the tale in a speech at a United States Press Club luncheon in Washington, noting that the adventure took place in Mattapoisett, Massachusetts.

Sometimes having your face in the paper can work in your favor. When I ran for a local elected position some years back, my recognition factor increased exponentially. To my surprise, I won the election.

This time however, as Mark Twain is reputed

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to have said, "Reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated."

*Editor's note: Mattapoissett resident Dick Morgado is an artist and retired newspaper columnist whose musings are, after some years, back in The Wanderer under the subtitle "Thoughts on ...." Morgado's opinions have also appeared for many years in daily newspapers around Boston.*

## The First Snowfall of Winter

*The Poet's Corner*

**By Hope Bradley Finley**

Wake up to the glorious Winter Wonderland!  
See how the majestic trees carry their regal, white robes.  
See how the lamp post is tipped with frosting,  
Looking like a Christmas card.  
Feast your wondering eyes on the mystical.  
Magical, sparkling mantle transforming the  
Mundane into Fantasyland of awesome beauty.  
The cardinal's red flame is perfectly set off against fluff,  
white background.  
The sun sparkles on every branch, twinkling in Rhythm  
with the breeze.  
The soul soars at the sight of this magnificent grandeur,  
And my heart gives thanks to Mother Nature.  
And I'm sure God smiles at this special Creation,  
And fills our hearts with appreciation and gratitude.

*Editor's Note: Hope Bradley Finley is a 95-year-old Mattapoissett resident who, despite the loss of eyesight and*



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hearing, has continued in her pastime of writing poems and essays. The Wanderer is happy to share them with our readers.

### Winters Faces Full Plate with Assessors

*Marion Select Board/Board of Assessors*

**By Mick Colageo**

The impression that Finance Committee member Peter Winters made during his November 15 interview before the Marion Select Board and the Board of Assessors still resonated when the two boards reconvened on December 7 at the Cushing Community Center.

Board of Assessors Chairman George T.J. Walker said all three candidates (Winters, Michael Pierre and



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Barry Gaffey) were impressive but agreed with Select Board member Norm Hills that Winters is the best fit. He credited Select Board member Toby Burr for asking the interviewees about their availability to meet the demands of time that further separated Winters as the preferred candidate.

"Town Meeting will ultimately decide who will fill the vacancy," said Walker. "We're talking about six months. We've got a lot on our plate and given the (increase in property) values ... a lot of hearings. For that purpose, I think Mr. Winters is qualified, and he's going to get thrown to the wolves right away - for six months."

The joint vote was unanimous at 5-0.

With the appointment, Winters fills the seat vacated with the September passing of longtime member Catherine Gibbs. The term will expire in May with the 2023 Town Election. Winters told the boards during his interview that he intends to run for the seat.

In her Town Administrator Report, Judy Mooney announced that the state Seaport Economic Council has granted Marion another \$300,000 toward the construction of the new harbormaster facility at Island Wharf.

The town had applied for a second \$1,000,000 grant from the SEC; this grant leaves the effort short by \$700,000. Total SEC grant funding toward the project now stands at \$1,600,000, counting the initial \$300,000 grant.

Mooney told the Select Board that she and Harbormaster Isaac Perry will go to Plymouth County as part of their effort to seek more funding. Perry has filed more grant applications.

"Right now, the way the article's written, we can't send it. ... You'd have to go back to Town Meeting," said Mooney of voter approval for the project.

"If we miss the Spring Town Meeting, the price of that building is going to go up \$400,000," added Select Board Chairman Randy Parker.

Mooney also updated the board on the new Department of Public Works facility planned for Benson Brook.

Project designer Will Saltonstall is putting together a team of architects and engineering services. He is working on a proposal for consulting services that he

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plans to submit to the town this month. Parker asked that Mooney share that information with the DPW Planning Committee.

The search for a new town administrator yielded 28 applications ahead of the Screening Committee's initial review on December 8. Parker indicated that it is hoped the committee can conduct interviews for two days prior to Christmas.

The Select Board voted to extend the deadline to apply for the Historic Study Committee to the board's next public meeting on December 20.

Mooney estimated that 10 applications had been received as of December 7. The town has also requested two nominations from the Marion Historical Commission, the Boston Society of Architects and the state Board of Real Estate Brokers.

The tax rate (per \$1,000 in property) for FY23 is not \$9.52 as previously projected but \$9.44, reported Mooney. The rate is established according to actual property sales, said Assessor Pat DeCosta, who told the board she had hoped the FY23 rate would be lower because property values have continued to climb. The state certifies the rate, pointed out Walker.

Mooney said that the state Department of Revenue says property values continue to increase across the state and in waterfront communities, even more.

The Select Board voted to renew licenses for 2023.

Executive Assistant Donna Hemphill explained that the 48 licenses issued by the town are held by 30 businesses. There are 12 liquor licenses (including eight on-premises consumption), the remaining fall under categories including common victualer, entertainment, etc.

Burr recused himself from the vote, noting that Burr Brothers Boat Company is on the renewal list. Parker and Hills voted to approve the list as presented and to authorize Hemphill to use the board's signature stamp. Hemphill said she will send out the license renewals at the end of the month.

Also applying to the state's Alcohol Beverage Control Commission (ABCC) was a discussion and vote on Marion's estimated seasonal population. Hemphill

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said the town clerk estimates that population as of July 5, 2023 is expected to reach 6,200. The annual submission to the ABCC provides the estimate for the purposes of seasonal alcohol permitting.

The board approved a new application for a previously approved sewer connection at 43 Dexter Road, also recommended for approval by the DPW. The correct application will be held until signed by the applicant.

The board also approved Water/Sewer commitments of \$1,097.10 (final readings December 1), \$1,031.00 (new water service November 18) and \$466.57 (final readings November 15.)

The next meeting of the Marion Select Board is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20, at 6:00 pm at the Police Station.

### Search for Town Administrator Underway

Marion Town Administrator Screening Committee

By Mick Colageo

After Bernie Lynch of Community Paradigm Associates explained that "the numbers we used to see for these jobs have been cut by at least a third" and told the story of a recent search that yielded 13 candidates, only one of whom had been a town manager, the challenge facing a smaller town like Marion became clear.

The Marion Town Administrator Screening Committee held a public meeting on December 8 to officially launch its part in the search for a replacement

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for Jay McGrail, who left last month to become town manager in Middleborough, a town of five times Marion's population.

"The town administrator for a 4,000 population is the same as a town manager for 25,000, so that's where we're coming into the problem," said Select Board Chairman Randy Parker.

Noting that Marion had 39 applicants the last time, Parker was eager to add that McGrail was not in the first batch of applicants for the job. He told the committee he believes one among those 39 has once again applied.

Marion, according to Lynch, fits the entry-level profile for candidates. The committee's job is to work with Lynch in whittling down the list to bring two to four finalists to the Select Board.

"After that, there really isn't a way to get candidates before the board," said Lynch. "You can give all the resumes to the Select Board, but then they go public ... their jobs can be in jeopardy so (the screening process) helps get the best candidates possible."

Some towns, explained Lynch, form screening, search and selection committees, but the process is the same as almost all other searches that Community Paradigm Associates has conducted based on his vast background of 40-plus years in town management.

Lynch was town manager in Chelmsford, then city manager in Lowell for almost eight years, double the average town-manager tenure. Lowell is the state's fifth most-populated city behind Cambridge.

In 2014, Lynch left Lowell to pursue other interests, including teaching, consulting, government-relations work and recruitment.

He has taught political science at UMass Lowell and joined Suffolk University to teach a local-government certification program in an effort to try to develop a new generation of town administrators. McGrail came out of the program.

"Jay is really one of the good students that we had come through," said Lynch, who is seeing several now finding jobs. "I think there might be a couple in this batch of candidates."

According to Lynch, Community Paradigm Associates has conducted over 90 searches in Massachusetts since 2015. It is the state's most active recruiting firm, according to Lynch, and has led the way to more town management hires than all other firms put together.

Lynch personally led the search that yielded McGrail, and he will once again lead this search. He said the last five years have seen mostly retirements among town managers. Generation-X, he said, did not choose government as a career.

"That's created a hole," Lynch said, but was optimistic having previewed the initial group of applicants for Marion's opening. "There are some very good candidates here."

Once the Screening Committee recommends

finalists, Community Paradigm Associates will contact references and conduct background checks. Initial steps have already begun. Unless the Select Board sees fit to call back the Screening Committee, its work is completed once the finalists are chosen.

Marion Finance Director / Town Accountant Judy Mooney is serving as interim town administrator.

Parker was voted chairman of the Screening Committee and Zoning Board of Appeals Chairperson Cynthia Callow to serve as clerk. The other members of the committee are Building Commissioner Bob Grillo, Finance Committee member Jay Pateakos and citizen at large Mike Sudofsky.

After Lynch finished answering questions from the committee, the members entered executive session to review resumes.

The committee did not set a date for its next meeting upon adjournment.

### **RMS Solar Canopy Closer to Approval**

*Rochester Planning Board*

**By Michael J. DeCicco**

The Rochester Planning Board Tuesday night brought a plan to place a large-scale, solar-panel system canopy over the Rochester Memorial School parking lot another step closer to approval.

The board noted it has received the project's peer-review report from consulting engineer Ken Motta, but



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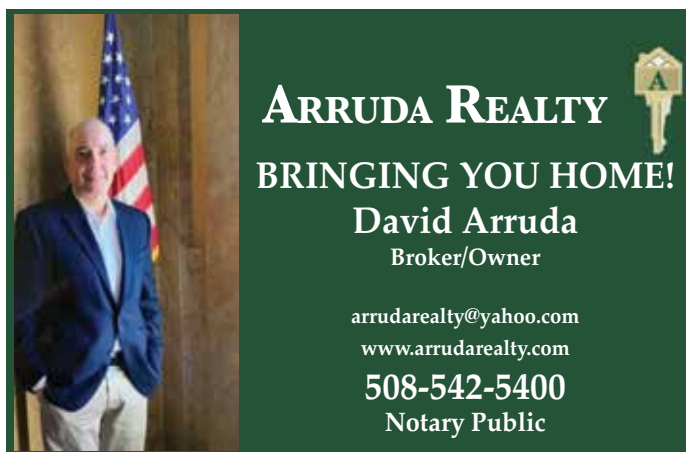
it discussed only the landscaping portion of the report in response to a request from project representative Steve Gregory.

Gregory said the developers were making most of the corrections recommended in Motta's comments but wanted to know what type of landscape screening the board needs. The issue is the need to screen the 14-foot-high canopy from the school's residential abutter at 38 Pine Street. The property is heavily wooded and 200 feet away from the canopy's location.

Planning Board Chairman Arnold Johnson started his answer with the fact the developer cannot count the trees on the adjacent private property as part of the screening plan. The screening must be 100% complete



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from day one, Johnson said; the developer cannot use plantings that have not matured to the correct length.

Gregory was instructed to plan a 15-foot-high and 100-foot-long screen consisting of rows of Leland Cypress Trees and to post a landscaping completion bond for five growing seasons.

Johnson also noted Motta's recommendation that the developers rewrite the letter of waivers to add that waiving the 100-foot setback requirement should be added to their requests.

The board continued the hearing until its January 24, 2023 meeting.

The plan for a canopy-mounted, large-scale solar photovoltaic system in the parking lot at the Rochester Memorial School will require a special permit and site-plan-review approval. The two canopies, measuring 222-feet long by 438-feet wide and supported by seven columns will be built on 13.7 acres in the school's rear parking lot.

The board came even closer to approving Connet Woods' proposal to modify its definitive, flexible subdivision plan by eliminating a subdivision road and convert/downgrade 10 approved lots to three lots at Connet Woods and Box Turtle Drive.

Project representative Steve Meltzer noted that Motta, in his recent review of this plan, seemed satisfied with the modifications that the developer recently performed.



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"He said it's all set," Johnson said of Motta's report. "It seems straightforward now."

Swiftly thereafter, the board closed the public hearing, and Johnson told Meltzer that a draft decision will be prepared for its next meeting on January 10, 2023.

Next, the Planning Board approved the Village at Plumb Corner's request to begin Phase III, which would mean an additional 10 units. To that end, the board set the surety bond for that phase at \$980,000.

Lastly, the board reviewed a suggestion from Town Planner Nancy Durfee that its meetings move back to being held at Town Hall rather than the Old Colony Regional Vocational-Technical High School library. Durfee said Town Hall would be a more sensible meeting space because it has its own Owl-brand microphone, along with camera system and laptops and will be closer to board files.

Johnson said the move is worth considering but requested the building commissioner be consulted as to the "real" occupancy capacity of the Town Hall meeting room.

Board member Ben Bailey then suggested the board and the town create a bylaw regulating the use of drones. He said a citizen suggested doing so after his own experience with a neighbor's drone.

Johnson responded that the idea is worth exploring.

The next meeting of the Rochester Planning Board is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Old Colony Regional Vocational-Technical High School library, 476 North Avenue, Rochester.

## Eagle Project Will Combat 'EEE'

*Mattapoissett Conservation Commission*

**By Marilou Newell**

The December 12 meeting of the Mattapoissett Conservation Commission was one of those rare occasions when a municipal board gets to hear from the youth in the community. Coming before the commission on this night was Boy Scout Murray Copps to discuss his Eagle project.

Copps has secured permission from various private-property owners, whose holdings include marshlands, to install bird boxes for Tree Swallows.

Marshy areas are the species' preferred nesting site. Copps said that the birds feed on mosquitos, which carry Eastern Equine Encephalitis ("Triple E.") He went on to say that Tree Swallows are a bird species "in decline," his point being that the establishment of nesting boxes not only helps the birds but us as well.

Conservation Commission Chairman Mike King called it a great project and good idea, while noting that the commission appreciated learning about the project but that permissions were not necessary, as long as the property owners gave permission. "This falls under wildlife enhancement," he pointed out.

Copps said the plan is to install approximately



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12 boxes 40 feet apart while standing 5 feet above the marshes. He said the project will be completed by mid-January.

In other business, a Notice of Intent filed by McGrath Realty Trust, 0 Cove Street, for the construction of a gravel parking area was continued until January 9. Bob Field of Field Engineering, representing the McGraths, was asked to submit a formalized plan that included the removal of boulders and a remediation planting plan.

Three certificates of compliance were issued to Armand Cortellesso, Brandt Point Road Builders LLC. Cortellesso will receive the signed releases after confirmation by the commission's agent that site clean-

up and proper positioning of wetlands signage has taken place.

An After the Fact Request for Determination of Applicability filed by John Romanelli, 15 Howard Beach, received a negative determination.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, January 9, at 6:30 pm.

## Town Looking to Slow Septic Requirement

*Rochester Board of Health*

**By Michael J. DeCicco**

The Rochester Board of Health on December 7 reviewed a draft letter that will request "slowing down" the implementation of proposed new and potentially expensive state septic-system installation regulations.

Town Health Director Karen Walega said the Department of Environmental Protection is proposing to require nitrogen-reduction systems for even existing septic systems. This new regulation, she said, would require costly system upgrades or require the town to apply for a Watershed Area designation permit.

The latter would give the town 20 years to see where the water-polluting nitrogen is coming from, she said. This complicated, equally expensive process would have to succeed at reducing the pollutant.

Otherwise, even the elderly and homeowners on fixed incomes would have to pay up to \$50,000 above their other septic-system costs for a new mechanical system including denitrification technology. And that does not include the electricity to run the new fan-based systems, roughly \$70 to \$80 per month.

The new system has only gotten "provisional" approval from the DEP, Walega said. Yet the DEP is speeding through the new regulation's approval process; the current implementation target date is January 3, 2023.

The town, explained Walega, needs to request the state slow down with that process until more information can be gathered. "We need to all sit down with the DEP," she said. "We need to slow this down and everyone have a seat at the table to discuss this."

Board of Health Chairman David Souza and the



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other members agreed to have a final draft of its letter to the state ready to be sent by early this week. "There are other systems like it that don't cost as much and might work more efficiently," Souza said. "We've got to slow them down."

Walega noted that while the south coast is being targeted in Phase One of the state's plan, "This is a state-wide problem," she said. A Conservation Law Foundation lawsuit regarding high nitrogen pollution in the state's groundwater is a main reason for this action, she added. "But towns have been called to the table for their input. ... Rochester has 2,900 homes. How will we finance that many homeowners? Financially, people just can't do it."


"I'm all for protecting the environment," Souza said. "But we have to use common sense."

Elsewhere on the December 7 agenda, the Board of Health approved a percolation-rate variance to allow the building of a home and farmstand at the 58.5-acre Elliot Farm on Marion Road.

Souza said the soil there is in "beautiful" condition but will need a lot of fill because it is not too far from land that is wet. He and fellow board members said they were very much in favor of seeing this property developed as planned.

Also, the board approved the \$6,800 recycling/landfill contract with Tighe and Bond for next year.

The next meeting of the Rochester Board of Health is scheduled for Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at



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### Ten-Bay Garage Brings out Abutters

*Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals*

**By Michael J. DeCicco**

The Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals opened a public hearing on December 8 into a plan to build an 80x204-foot steel building with 10 separate bays and 16,320 square feet of floor space at 19 Country Road. But the board could not even come close to rendering a decision.

Neighbors who are so concerned about the



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scale of the plan that they hired an attorney, expressed objections that led the petitioners Robert and Christine Murphy to request a continuance to January 26.

The Murphys said they were blindsided by their neighbors' reaction and wanted more time to be better prepared, including contacting their own attorney. They said the neighbors seemed okay with their plan to build a garage when the couple first discussed it with them. "We had no idea they were upset with this plan," Christine Murphy said.

Robert Murphy started the hearing by noting the first of his two requests before the Zoning panel is for a special permit to rent this garage space to people who are already storing items on his large property. He would fill the other parts of the garage with his own equipment and his race cars so he could store them and work on them in the winter. His other request before the panel is a variance to run his trucking company with up to three employees there.

Attorney Michael Kennefick, representing several of the abutters, countered that the proposed use does not belong where it is being planned. The site is in a residential-agricultural zone, and it is surrounded by neighbors. There is a junkyard that is an isolated, non-agricultural use in that area, but Murphy's trucking company is an unlawful operation in that location, Kennefick asserted.

To buttress his argument, Kennefick noted a use approved by the ZBA "must be in harmony with the intent of the town bylaw. The number of neighbors here proves this would not be in harmony."

Abutter Amy Bennett, 9 County Road, said she and her husband Kevin have a "medically delicate," wheelchair-bound child. "I'm concerned about what this does to all our lives," she said. "We have a brand-new deck. From it, we see wrecked vehicles and all the trucks. There'll be more noise; more trucks will come and go. I never thought I'd be here to stop an industrial use in a residential area. And it will devalue our property. This is really too much."

Christine Murphy said she had thought she and her husband had a great relationship with the neighbors. She said they have helped them with their own projects. They are cleaning up their property that the neighbors see from their yards. The new building, she said, "is going to block looking at that junkyard."

Board Chairman Thomas Flynn encouraged the Murphys to talk to the neighbors as well as their lawyer before January 26.

In other action, the Zoning panel approved a setback-requirement variance at 3 County Road to allow the building of a 20x16-foot deck closer than the required 40 feet from the side setback. Board members acknowledged in their motion that the size of the house lot and the location of the septic system would make it a hardship to place the deck elsewhere on the lot.

The next meeting of the Rochester Zoning Board

of Appeals is scheduled for Thursday, December 22, at 7:15 pm in the Town Hall meeting room, 1 Constitution Way, Rochester.

## **CPA Funding Requests under Review**

*Mattapoisett Community Preservation Act*

**By Marilou Newell**

Mattapoisett's Community Preservation Act Committee met on December 13 to begin the vetting process for grant applications received for the FY23 budget cycle. Grants passing muster will then go on to the Spring Town Meeting to determine the will of the people.

Five grants have been received, and preliminary discussion has begun to formulate questions to be answered by the applicants in advance of formal interviews and presentations to the committee.

One grant request garnering the most discussion was for \$150,000 received from the Mattapoisett/Massachusetts Housing Authority for property located off Main Street. The subsidized housing, which is owned by the state, was built some 40 years ago and is managed primarily by the state.

The application is for the purchase and installation of new sliding-glass partitions along the front façade of the structure. "The locks don't work so it's a safety issue," CPA Chairman Chuck McCullough stated.

As chair of the Mattapoisett Housing Authority, McCullough intends to recuse himself when the grant application comes up for a vote. He went on to further explain that the old glass does not shield the interior from harmful sunlight, "If it's 110 outside, it's 110 inside."

McCullough then described the process for securing housing at this location. Units are not held aside for Mattapoisett residents, nor are residents more likely to be selected over someone applying from out of town. McCullough explained that the highest priority is given to homeless people, followed by veterans. Other criteria includes whether or not the applicant is disabled, either physically or mentally, and their age. However, he said that 10% of all units must be allocated to young, disabled applicants.

McCullough shared that in the past, he had believed the town's money should not be spent on state-owned property but not this time. "We will get three dollars for every one dollar we contribute to the project," he said, meaning the state will pick up the balance of the retrofit estimated at \$700,000.

Other applications received include a request for \$15,000 from the Mattapoisett Historical Commission for continued town survey of historical structures, a \$38,000 request by the American Legion Hall for sanitary repairs and improvements and \$47,648 from the Mattapoisett Historical Society, which owns the Mattapoisett Museum.

Committee members questioned if the CPA should be funding maintenance projects and if the society has sought other funding sources such as their



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endowment. Similar questions regarding funding were raised regarding the American Legion Post. Committee member Karen Field wondered if they have sought funding through the National Association of American Veterans, Inc.

A large request came from the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District in the amount of \$85,000 for the purchase of more than 200 acres in cooperation with Rochester, Fairhaven and Marion. Questions as to whether the sale will rise or fail depending on all the member communities agreeing to pony up funding remained open, as did the question as to if all the towns will be expected to advance the same amount of money. The estimated price tag for the acreage is approximately \$6,000,000.

These questions and others will be sent ahead to the applicants before formal interviews take place in January.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett CPA Committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 29, at 5:30 pm.

## Nitrogen Sources Critical to State Septic Plan

*Mattapoisett Board of Health*

**By Mick Colageo**

Having seen the Town of Rochester push back on the state's winter-2023 timeframe to implement a new regulation requiring septic owners in designated nitrogen-sensitive areas to install expensive denitrification systems, Mattapoisett Board of Health Chairman Carmelo Nicolosi was eager to follow suit when the board met on December 8.

A debate is growing as to the source of the nitrogen that is polluting the harbors along the south coast and Cape Cod.

The effort to arrive at reliable conclusions includes surveying for a Nitrogen Sensitive Watershed Study and discussions with the state Department of Environmental Protection about funding the work.

According to Mattapoisett Land Trust President Mike Huguenin, the mouth of the Mattapoisett River is "very degraded." A new map produced in 2021 indicates that 50 acres of eel grass has been lost to the mouth of the river and is now "mud flat" according to Huguenin, who recommended the board consult with Buzzards Bay expert Joe Costa.

In answer to Nicolosi's question as to any uniformity of results from water testing for nitrogen, Huguenin indicated that going back 20 to 30 years, nitrogen levels were higher in places such as Tub Mill Brook. While up-river nitrogen levels are now somewhat lower, the levels in the harbor itself are trending slightly upward. The data, said Huguenin, is subject to interpretation. "Depends on how you squint at it," he said.

While MassDEP is not backing off its timeline



for implementation, certain things must happen first that could leverage delays. For instance, the Town of Fairhaven has yet to identify a nitrogen-sensitive area, a task that could delay implementation anywhere from 18 months to two years.

Fairhaven, along with host Mattapoisett, Marion and to a lesser extent Rochester, is a member of the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District. When the state identifies nitrogen-sensitive areas, it will look at watershed districts.

The monthly public meetings of the MRV's Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee and District Commission were to be held on Tuesday.

While the Environmental Protection Agency has yet to implement a total maximum daily load (TMDL), Nasketucket Bay State Reservation is expected to become the first Mattapoisett area targeted by the state's septic plan, followed by Aucoot Cove and Mattapoisett Harbor. Any watershed that integrates towns, golf courses and sewerage will be evaluated.

Bob Field of Field Engineering has been hired by the town to conduct testing and mapping to determine Mattapoisett's major nitrogen sources, be it farms, septic systems or birds. To finance the research and field work, the town will try to secure some grant funding.

In other business, the board approved two applications for projects on residential properties. The board granted a variance to allow a 3.6-foot separation

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from the groundwater table to the base of the septic system at 108 Acushnet Road and approved the relocation of a septic system to the rear of a house on Randall Road.

The board also discussed a lack of adequate feedback regarding a potential, regional recycling center at the town's transfer station off Tinkham Hill Road.

Earlier this year, a private company visited the transfer station to propose the center it would finance and build, inviting residents in surrounding municipalities to participate. The host town holds the first right of refusal in processing food waste up to the capacity allowed at the site.

State mandates are on the horizon that would require shipping food waste out of town, a costly exercise

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and one that local taxpayers would not be able to control.

Finally, the board approved Health Agent Gail Joseph's proposed policy on the use of its truck, along with associated expenses and reimbursements.

The next public meeting of the Mattapoisett Board of Health was not set upon adjournment

### **Plant Upgrade Headed for Winter 2024-25**

*MRV Water District Commission/Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee*

**By Mick Colageo**

In his Tata & Howard Report to Tuesday's monthly public meeting of the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District Commission, Jon Gregory reported a December 19 meeting with Koch Separation Solutions at the Mattapoisett Water Treatment Plant to go over the filter-changeover schedule.

"We'll be operating two systems at the same time," said Gregory, whose goal is to lay everything out on the table for a last design meeting prior to construction phases.

The meeting will include confirmation of all piping connections, especially as they affect the retrofitting of the new filtering system into the existing plant.

"We're living in a time where lead times on equipment are very difficult," said Gregory, noting that the MRV is still waiting on SRF funding.

Citing the goal to push everything out in one bid because there is a certain window of opportunity to do the work during the winter, Gregory said he is proceeding toward a 50% design. Filters must be taken offline while new ones are brought online, and Tata & Howard has reached out to MassDEP to discuss testing during the changeover period.

"They basically said we would have to go ahead and do a permit waiver," said Gregory, outlining a sequence to submit the plan to DEP, all the while acknowledging potential pitfalls. "We're going to need to do a shutdown to get the skids online." DEP will require more information as part of the permitting process.

Retiring engineer Paul Howard said, "We're really looking at the winter of 2024-25 for the construction to be done."

"In a normal supply-chain environment, this (timeline) would be less," said Gregory.

Mattapoisett Town Administrator Mike Lorencio asked if, "for the next two years, do we have concerns for keeping the current (plant as is) operational?"

Howard said the plant is in solid working operation, but he admitted to being nervous because the present filter system has already outlasted its projected useful life by several years.

MRV Chairman Vinnie Furtado was blunt in his assessment.

"In Fairhaven, we have a tremendous concern



over here. The filters are failing. Kudos to Henri Renauld and the staff. What was supposed to be seven years became 14 years," he said. "We get (complaints) all over. It's embarrassing. We're not providing unsafe drinking water, but we're certainly providing unsightly (water.)"

Loresco said he also receives complaints. "I just want to make sure if we're going to have this operational for two years ... I guess preparing for that would be a good idea," he said.

Furtado said Fairhaven has received \$300,000 in ARPA funding to flush his town's water.

"We have to be up front with people and let them know. As time's going on, the calls have become more frequent from the folks who have dirty water somewhere," said Furtado, noting that voters approved a remedy in Town Meeting in 2022 that is, thanks in part to COVID-related delays, two years away.

Before the Town of Fairhaven agrees to attach a cell-phone antenna to a water tower on Sconticut Neck Road, Furtado insisted the MRV discuss the matter.

"Providing water is the most important thing we do," he said, noting that cell service is so spotty in the area that the MRV distributes hand-held radios to the staff. Fairhaven would receive a rental fee on a lease.

At Furtado's request, Rich Feeley and Rossana Ferrante of Network Building were on hand to present to the commission on the cell tower proposal.

Ferrante called it a "due-diligence piece" to

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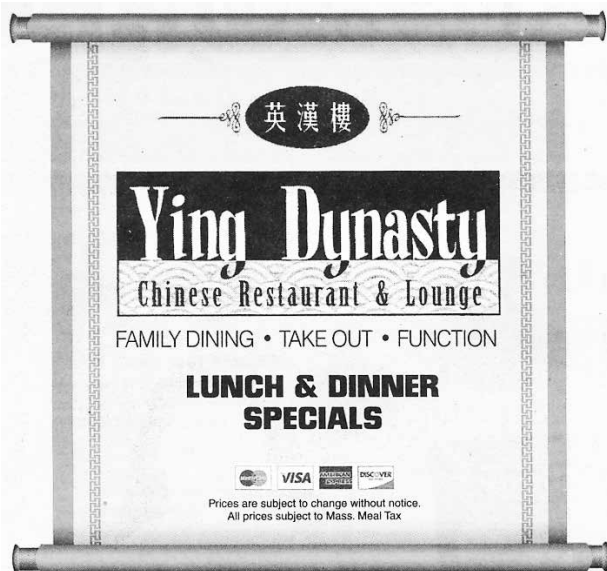
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stress that Network Building is cognizant of other cellular carriers, be it in a hospital or on a tower. "We work with the other carriers to make sure there isn't any interference," she said. "Antennas do not get installed without a lot of consideration."

While a three-sided monopole is considered the best design option provided adequate space, Feeley noted that Sprint recently built a fiberglass steeple atop a southeastern Massachusetts church that could not afford to rebuild its steeple. The cellular signal goes through the fiberglass.

Furtado, the DPW director for Fairhaven, told the commission that a past proposal was not approved by the town "because of concerns over communication between



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the water plant and the tower.”

A typical term for lease agreements for cell-phone carriers is 20 years.

Gregory sent the budget out on December 12 for a final look by commission members. The total assessment for FY24 is \$2,357,300, a 3.2% increase from FY23.

“We went over these numbers and tried to make it as acceptable as we could to the communities ... yeoman’s task by Jon,” said Furtado.

Feedback indicated the MRV may need to increase its reserve fund for next year.

The commission voted to contract Tata & Howard to put together the annual report.

The commission reported \$91,700.73 in total

invoices for the month.

Tuesday’s meeting of the MRV was meant to be the last for Howard, who was thanked by Furtado, the MRV Water District Commission and Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee for his assistance over the years.

“It’s not often you can get a group of towns that work so harmoniously as this one does. It’s been a pleasure working with you guys,” said Howard, who told both groups he will still be available for consultation. He will remain on the board at Tata & Howard.

The next meeting of the MRV Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 3:30 pm with the MRV Water District Commission meeting to immediately follow at 4:00 pm on the same Zoom call.

## Normal Still New to Students

*Marion School Committee*

**By Jack MC Staier**

“I’m going to be honest, I think there’s a lot to be proud of, knowing what we have all gone through the last two and a half years. What we’re hearing from the state is that a lot of the trends we’re seeing are consistent from district to district. We saw some of that here. But honestly, overall, we feel that our students, our staff members and our family just did such a tremendous job in terms of keeping teaching and learning moving forward. So I truly thank them for their efforts during obviously very challenging times.”

Old Rochester Regional Superintendent of Schools Mike Nelson offered those remarks at the beginning of the Marion School Committee’s December 7 public meeting before turning the floor over to Sippican Elementary School Assistant Principal Peter Crisafulli, who presented a detailed coverage of the last round of MCAS scores for the district and the state.

The percentage of Sippican students exceeding expectations in the English Language Arts section of the MCAS has risen from 8% to 11% over the past two years. The percentage of students meeting expectations has remained steadily above state levels, with 39% of district

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students fitting into this category, compared to 35% of Massachusetts students overall.

In Math, 8% of students in the Marion district exceed expectations, compared to 6% of students in the state; 45% of Marion students met expectations compared to 33% of students in the state. For science, 19% of Marion students are exceeding expectations compared to 7% in the state, and 41% of Marion students are meeting expectations compared to 36% in the state.

"Again, if you look at some of these pieces of the curriculum," Crisafulli read an example from a slide detailing the educational requirements measured by the MCAS, "'Describe the transfer of energy and regular pattern of motion that occurs as a way of travel.' I can't,

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our students can." The gathered committee members chuckled in agreement. "We're going to identify both the areas of strength and concern for all our curriculum: (English Language Arts), Math, and Science."

Crisafulli reminded those present that this was the first ever "normal" school year for some of the students, and absolutely all of them had been impacted by the ongoing pandemic.

"This is the first normal year for our Grade Three students, just in general, and we're always looking at the data to look at areas of gaps and where we can close some of those gaps. And just overall, we're really proud of our students and our teachers and educators moving forward," he said.

There followed a further breakdown of MCAS results for the various Sippican school grades in relation to the state percentiles. This data, as well as the PowerPoint it was presented in, is available through the ORR district website.

Further committee discussion included a new police initiative regarding the implementation of a "satellite office" in the Sippican Elementary School. "Beginning December 7, a space inside Sippican School will be designated as a Marion Police satellite office, and moving forward, on-duty Marion police officers will be able to make use of the space for administrative police purposes."

He read a prepared statement made by the ORR administration: "At this time, the officers who use the satellite office will not serve as school resource officers, nor will they be involved in day-to-day school operations, activities or discipline."

Sippican Elementary School Principal Marla Sirois welcomed new staff member Darby Nolet in her report. "Ms. Nolet has joined the team as a paraprofessional. She

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is primarily working in Grade 6 for the remainder of the school year." Sirois also mentioned that there would be a hat, mitten and toy drive to be donated to Gifts to Give this holiday season.

There were no public comments either in person or via remote access and so the meeting adjourned quietly and without fanfare.

The next Marion School Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, at 6:30 pm accessible in person at 16 Spring Street and via Zoom. The next Joint School Committee meeting will be held Thursday, January 19, at 6:30 pm, in person at 133 Marion Road and via Zoom.

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Photographs of area events and newsmakers are also accepted and encouraged. The Wanderer accepts well-lit and clearly defined photographs for publication provided that they include a brief summary of the event or subject. We cannot return photographs. Like news items, the deadline for photos is Monday at noon, and the publication of photographs is also subject to spacing constraints and cannot be guaranteed.

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*The views expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are not necessarily those of The Wanderer, its staff or advertisers. The Wanderer will gladly accept any and all correspondence relating to timely and pertinent issues in the great Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester area, provided they include the author's name, address and phone number for verification. We cannot publish anonymous, unsigned or unconfirmed submissions. The Wanderer reserves the right to edit, condense and otherwise alter submissions for purposes of clarity and/or spacing considerations. The Wanderer may choose to not run letters that thank businesses, and The Wanderer has the right to edit letters to omit business names. The Wanderer also reserves the right to deny publication of any submitted correspondence.*

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*The Town of Marion's annual Christmas Stroll held on December 11 featured rides with Santa and Mrs. Claus on horse-drawn carriages, live entertainment from the Sippican Elementary School musicians, Christmas songs performed by Tabor Academy students, children's activities and many refreshments offered along the sidewalks by village merchants. Photos by Mick Colageo*



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7:30 AM Silver Strength: Mind and Body  
8:30 AM You and Your Health  
9:00 AM A Conversation With...  
9:30 AM Arts Alive  
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show  
10:30 AM Auto Sense  
11:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment  
11:30 AM Rochester Tree Lighting  
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:30 PM Two Tones with George Lopes  
2:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Robert Pina  
3:00 PM Southcoast Matters TV  
3:30 PM Marion COA Informational Session  
4:30 PM Mattapoisett Cranberry Coast Concert  
5:30 PM Marion Halloween Parade  
5:46 PM Mattapoisett Halloween Parade  
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
6:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
7:00 PM Recovery Recreation TV  
7:30 PM This is America & The World  
8:00 PM Money Matters TV  
8:30 PM Registers Report  
9:00 PM Lamb of God Christian Church  
10:00 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band  
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

**Friday December 16, 2022**

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Silver Strength: Mind and Body  
8:30 AM Living & Learning with Disabilities  
9:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show  
10:30 AM Mike Paige Doodle Club  
11:00 AM Cape Conversations  
11:30 AM A Conversation With...  
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment  
1:30 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre

2:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience  
2:30 PM Off the Shelf  
3:00 PM Recovery Recreation TV  
3:30 PM This is America and the World  
4:00 PM Paltrocst  
4:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV  
4:57 PM Sippican Historical Society Speaker Series - Dr. Michael Moore  
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
6:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band  
7:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Astronomy  
9:00 PM The Non-Profit World  
9:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
10:00 PM Gay USA  
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

**Saturday December 17, 2022**

6:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartoon Festival  
9:00 AM Health Source  
9:30 AM Recovery Recreation TV  
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show  
10:30 AM A Conversation With...  
11:00 AM Auto Sense  
11:30 AM Science 360  
12:00 PM Mid-Day Movie  
12:30 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience

1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment  
1:30 PM Southcoast Matters  
2:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Robert Pina  
3:30 PM Paltrocst with Darren Paltrowitz  
4:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience  
4:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Astronomy  
5:30 PM For Art's Sake  
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
6:30 PM Sippican Historical Society - Portuguese History  
8:00 PM Mattapoisett Veterans Day Ceremony  
9:00 PM Rochester Tree Lighting  
9:30 PM Registers Report  
10:00 PM Two Tones with George Lopes  
10:30 PM Let's Talk Business  
11:00 PM Classic Movies

**Sunday December 18, 2022**

6:00 AM Health Source  
6:30 AM Reeling - The Movie Review Show

7:00 AM Lamb of God Christian Church  
8:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church  
9:00 AM First Congregational Church of Rochester  
10:00 AM St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church of Marion  
11:30 AM Armchair QB  
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre  
1:30 PM Sippican Historical Society - Jonathan Henry  
2:30 PM Ron Winer - Four Winds Concert at St. Gabriels  
3:30 PM Rochester Tree Lighting  
4:00 PM Paltrocst with Darren Paltrowitz  
4:30 PM Fur, Fins, and Feathers  
5:00 PM The World Fusion Show  
5:30 PM Rochester Tree Lighting  
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
6:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Astronomy  
7:30 PM This is America & The World  
8:00 PM Beacon Hill Report  
8:30 PM ORR Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony  
10:30 PM Classic Movies

**Monday December 19, 2022**

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Silver Strength: Mind and Body  
8:30 AM For Your Health  
9:00 AM You and Your Health  
9:30 AM The Curious Giraffe Show  
10:00 AM A Conversation With...  
10:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
11:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road  
11:30 AM Tri-Town TV  
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:00 PM In the Toy Box  
1:30 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre  
2:00 PM Southcoast Matters TV  
2:30 PM The Collective Chat  
3:00 PM ORR Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony  
5:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Plastic Pollution  
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
6:30 PM Rochester Tree Lighting

7:00 PM Ron Winer - Four Winds Concert at St. Gabriels  
7:30 PM Paltrocst with Darren Paltrowitz  
8:00 PM Pete on the Street  
8:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
9:00 PM Let's Talk Business  
9:30 PM Building the Future  
10:00 PM Gay USA  
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

**Tuesday December 20, 2022**

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Silver Strength: Mind and Body  
8:30 AM Two Grannies on the Road  
9:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment  
9:30 AM The Collective Chat  
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show  
10:30 AM Mike Paige Doodle Club  
11:00 AM Arts Alive  
11:30 AM In the Toy Box  
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:30 PM The Non-Profit World  
2:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre  
2:30 PM ORR Hall of Fame Ceremony  
4:00 PM Paltrocst with Darren Paltrowitz  
4:30 PM Building the Future  
5:00 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Plastic Pollution  
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
6:30 PM Rochester Tree Lighting  
7:00 PM Ron Winer - Four Winds Concert at St. Gabriels  
8:00 PM Money Matters TV  
8:30 PM Beacon Hill Report  
9:00 PM Falmouth Academy Community Series  
10:00 PM Gay USA  
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

**Wednesday December 21, 2022**

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Silver Strength: Mind and Body  
8:30 AM You and Your Health  
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road  
9:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show  
10:30 AM Conversations in Mental Health  
11:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church

12:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV  
2:00 PM Auto Sense  
2:30 PM Money Talk Tuesday  
3:00 PM A Conversation With...  
3:30 PM Music Monday's with Houston Bernard  
4:00 PM Paltrocst with Darren Paltrowitz  
4:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Astronomy  
5:30 PM Building the Future  
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV  
6:30 PM The World Fusion Show  
7:00 PM Let's Talk Business  
7:30 PM Registers Report  
8:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - Portuguese History  
9:30 PM Beacon Hill Report  
10:00 PM Ghost Chronicles  
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

## MARION

### GOVERNMENT

**Comcast Channel 95**

**Verizon Channel 39**

**Daily Schedule**

7:00 AM Marion Board of Selectmen  
7:30 AM Marion Planning Board  
9:00 AM Marion Conservation Commission  
10:00 AM Marion Zoning Board of Appeals  
10:30 AM Marion Open Space Acquisition Committee  
11:30 AM Marion Finance Committee  
12:00 PM Marion Board of Health  
1:00 PM Marion Affordable Housing Trust  
2:00 PM Marion Marine Resource Committee  
2:30 PM Marion School Committee  
4:00 PM ORR Joint School Committee  
4:30 PM ORR School Committee  
7:00 PM Marion Board of Selectmen  
7:30 PM Marion Planning Board  
9:00 PM Marion Conservation Commission  
10:30 PM Marion Open Space Acquisition Committee  
11:30 PM Marion Finance Committee

**ROCHESTER**

## GOVERNMENT

**Comcast Channel 95**

**Verizon Channel 40**

**Daily Schedule**

7:00 AM Rochester Board of Selectmen  
8:00 AM Rochester Conservation Commission  
8:30 AM Rochester Planning Board  
11:00 AM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeal  
12:30 PM Rochester School Committee  
2:00 PM Joint School Committee  
2:30 PM ORR School Committee  
4:30 PM Rochester Board of Selectmen  
5:30 PM Rochester Conservation Commission  
6:00 PM Rochester Planning Board  
8:30 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals  
10:00 PM Rochester School Committee  
11:30 PM ORR School Committee

## EDUCATION

### CHANNEL

**Comcast Channel 97**

**Verizon Channel 37**

**Daily Schedule**

7:00 AM Bulldog Weekly  
7:30 AM RMS Graduation Ceremony  
9:00 AM RMS Spring Concert  
11:00 AM ORRHS Promenade 2021  
12:00 PM Bulldog Weekly  
12:30 PM Old Colony Girls Soccer vs Bristol Plymouth  
2:00 PM Old Colony Volleyball vs Norfolk Aggie  
3:30 PM Old Colony Skills USA Awards Ceremony  
4:00 PM Old Colony - Shakespeare on the Green  
6:00 PM Bulldog Weekly  
6:30 PM Old Colony Robotics Competition 2019  
7:00 PM ORRHS Pep Rally 2022  
8:30 PM ORR Spring Concert  
9:30 PM ORR Football vs Dighton-Rehobeth  
11:00 PM Old Colony Jungle Book Play

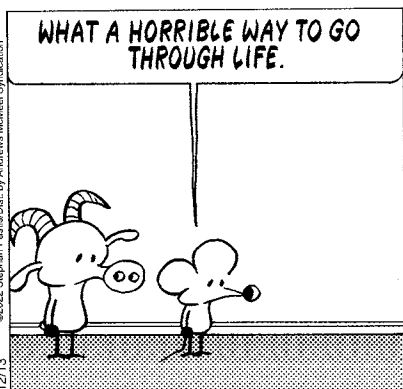
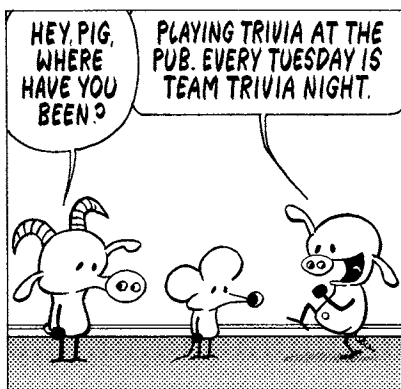
## MATTAPOISETT

### GOVERNMENT

**Comcast Channel 95**

**Verizon Channel 38**

## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



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12/13

We are now three generations who have committed our lives to this family business. More importantly, we have made a commitment to our town and all of its residents. We have always strived to do the best that we can, give back whenever possible and to be a good neighbor. After this devastating fire that seemingly took everything away, it became abruptly clear that all we had lost was some property, some stuff, those things we take for granted each day. What we had not counted on, what we had not expected but what happened was a pure outpouring of support for a neighbor. While we would never wish anything like this on anyone, to somehow express the feeling on this end, the receiving end, of all of the support that has come our way, is simply overwhelming.

During this holiday season, look to your neighbors, wherever they may be, and offer thanks. And please know that your kindness and thoughtfulness has given us the strength and courage to forge ahead. It has been just one more reminder that Mattapoisett Is Special.

Art and Alberta McLean  
Dave and Jenn Kaiser  
Ned and Jess Kaiser

### Classes for All Ages Starting in January at the MAC

The Marion Art Center will close to the public for the season on Saturday, **December 17** at 2:00 pm. The

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# OBITUARIES



**Jonathan H. Mort**, a lifelong resident of Mattapoisett and graduate of Old Rochester, died peacefully, on December 7, 2022, at the age of 62.

Jonathan was born on July 2, 1960 and his birthday being so close to July 4th embedded in him a strong sense of patriotism. It was only fitting that his last days were spent at St Luke's hospital where his room provided a view of a large American flag and the water which reflected his love of Mattapoisett. St Luke's provided extraordinary care to Jonathan which his family will always be grateful for.

For over 45 years, Jonathan owned a landscaping and snow removal business which carried his name. Jonathan cared deeply for his customers. He was known to watch many weather forecasts getting up in the early hours to begin clearing snow to be sure his customers could get out in the morning and worried about the amount of rain for his customer's lawns in the summer. When he was challenged with the rigors of cancer, he was still on the job and was out there taking care of a customer's property 5 days before his passing.

What may not be as well known about Jonathan is his caring about those less fortunate. He knew of neighbors in need and would not only take care of their lawns and snow but bring them food and dinners as well.

Jonathan was a big sports fan. He loved to watch our NE sports teams, the NY Giants and many other professional sports team. He followed our local high school sports teams. In the evening, he could be found watching his favorite shows, Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy.

Jonathan is the beloved son of Polly-Ann (Cotter) Mort and the late John W. Mort of Mattapoisett. He is also survived by his sisters, Joanna Robbins and her husband, Thomas and Polly MacDonald and her partner, Bruce Farrington, as well as 6 nieces and nephews and his aunts & uncles. He is sadly predeceased by his brother, David.

From our family to yours, Life is often way too short as we have found with Jonathan and David's passing. Make each day count. Be kind and caring to others – that will last well after we are all gone.

A wake will be held on Friday, December 16 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at Saunders Funeral Home in Mattapoisett followed by a funeral service at 11:00 am on Saturday.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Martha's Food Pantry, Grace Episcopal Church, 133 School St, New Bedford MA

*If you have a notice you would like to have included in the Obituaries section, please contact our office at: 508 758-9055, or by email at [office@wanderer.com](mailto:office@wanderer.com).*

## TRI-TOWN POLICE LOGS



### MARION

#### Log highlights Dec 4-Dec 10

- Wareham Rd - Lockout
- Mill St - EMS/medical
- Cottage St - EMS/medical
- Converse Rd - General service
- Wareham Rd - Health/welfare
- Arrowhead Ln - EMS/medical
- South St - Smoke investigation
- Wareham Rd - Trespassing
- Lewis St - EMS/medical
- Marion Rd - Transport
- Mill St - EMS/medical
- Front St - 911 abandoned
- Wareham Rd - Animal control
- Pleasant St - Noise complaint
- Mill St - EMS/medical
- Wareham Rd - Health/welfare
- County Rd - MV collision
- Route 195 East - MV collision
- Front St - EMS/medical
- Rocky Knook Ln - EMS/medical
- Barnabas Rd - Trespassing
- South St - Parking enforcement
- Cottage St - Parking enforcement
- Mill St - MV stop/citation
- Delano Rd - EMS/medical
- Creek Rd - Animal complaint
- Wareham Rd - MV collision
- Delano Rd - EMS/medical

### MATTAPOISETT

#### Log highlights Dec 4-Dec 10

- Fairhaven Rd - MV violations
- Goodspeed Island - Vandalism
- Laura Ln - Unattended death
- River Rd - Suspicious persons
- Mechanic St - Complaint
- Fairhaven Rd - MV violations
- Marion Rd - Suspicious persons
- Angelica Ave - General services
- County Rd - 911 call
- Long Plain Rd - 911 call
- Wildwood Ter - General service
- Neds Point Rd - MV lockout
- Pine Island Rd - MV violations
- Marion Rd - MV crash
- Snow Fields Rd - Animal control
- Hereford Hill Rd - MV lockout
- Grand View Ave - Medical alarm
- Angelica Ave - Suspicious persons
- County Rd - MV crash
- North Ave - Animal control
- Angelica Ave - Health/welfare
- County Rd - Missing person
- Indian Ave - Notification
- Homestead Ct - Notification
- Jowick St - Suspicious MV
- Cannon St - Larceny/forgery/fraud
- Sparrow Hill Rd - Notification
- Crystal Spring Rd - 911 call

### ROCHESTER

#### Log highlights Dec 4-Dec 10

- Cushman Rd - 911 call
- Walnut Plain Rd - MV collision
- North Ave - Animal control
- Braley Hill Rd - 911 call
- Robinson Rd - Suspicious activity
- Pine St - Medical
- Braley Hill Rd - MV stop/citation
- County Rd - MV collision
- Stuart Rd - 911 call
- Dexter Ln - MV lockout
- Neck Rd - Animal control
- Marys Pond Rd - MV collision
- Dexter Ln - Firearms licensing
- Dexter Ln - Follow up
- Cranberry Hwy - 911 call
- Paradise Ln - Medical
- Marion Rd - Community policing
- Cranberry Hwy - Disturbance
- Cranberry Hwy - Follow up
- Braley Hill Rd - 911 call
- Marion Rd - Panic alarm
- Williams Way - 911 call
- County Rd - MV stop/arrest
- Snipatuit Rd - MV collision
- Neck Rd - Missing person
- Front St - Assist other agency
- Walnut Plain Rd - MV collision
- Mayflower Ln - Noise complaint



MAC reopens on Tuesday, **January 3** in preparation for the Winter Members' Show, the first gallery show of the year. Classes for both children and adults will resume mid-January.

Two new eight-week sessions of All Levels Watercolor Painting for Adults starts on **January 12 and 13**. Instructor Jay Ryan will teach a two-hour class on Thursday mornings from 10 am-12 pm, and he will offer a three-hour eight-week course on Friday mornings from 9:30 am-12:30 pm. The cost for the Thursday class is \$195 for MAC members and \$225 for nonmembers, while the Friday class costs \$290 for MAC members and \$325 for nonmembers. Each class has a one-day drop-in option (\$30 for Thursday, \$45 for Friday) for those who can't commit to the entire session or would like to get in some extra studio time with the instructor. Learn more and register online at [marionartcenter.org/adult-classes](http://marionartcenter.org/adult-classes).

Instructor Lisa Elliott will teach a new session of Weaving on a Rigid Heddle Loom on Sunday afternoons from 1:00-3:30 in the MAC Studio, **January 15 to February 12**. Have you ever wanted to try weaving but not sure where to begin? In five short weeks, you can learn a new fiber skill and take home your very first woven project. Students will weave one of the following: a scarf, table runner, set of placemats, or set of tea towels. Looms and weaving equipment are provided, but students will provide their own yarns. The cost is \$150 for MAC members and \$160 for nonmembers, and the class is

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# MOVIE REVIEW

## Origin Story

By Rob Gonsalves  
[www.robsmovievault.com](http://www.robsmovievault.com)

***The Fabelmans*.** Starring Michelle Williams and Paul Dano. Directed by Steven Spielberg. Running time: 151 minutes. MPAA rating: PG-13. Now playing in theaters.

If you can take a guy who punched you in the nose and make him look like a hero in a movie, the sky's the limit. That's the implication of the last act of Steven Spielberg's *The Fabelmans*, which tells a lightly fictionalized version of the story of young Spielberg as he gains a passion for movies — watching them and then making them. Here, Spielberg addresses an event that brought him and his siblings great pain at the time, his parents' separation when Spielberg was 19, and sees it with enough distance to allow both parents humanity. He has made a memoir filled with compassion for everyone except, maybe, for an antisemitic kid who bullies Spielberg's young avatar Sam Fabelman.

Sam (Gabriel LaBelle) gets the filmmaking bug when a trainwreck in *The Greatest Show on Earth* scares him. It's fair to say Sam chases that emotional dragon — trying to recreate for his audiences that same sense of awe and fear — for the rest of his life; he asks for a train set so he can recreate the train crash and feel some control over it. That's the diagnosis of his free-spirited mom Mitzi (Michelle Williams), a concert pianist. Like Spielberg, Sam partially takes after his mother — the creative part — and partially after his father, Burt (Paul Dano), an engineer — the technical, how-do-stories-work part. Mitzi lends Sam his father's camera so he can film the mini-crash once and just watch it over and over instead of doing it over and over. A director is born.

If Spielberg had attempted to make *The Fabelmans* at his manipulative-sentimental peak in the '80s, it would probably have been disastrous. His parents would still have been alive, and a concern over hurting their feelings held him back for decades. The way Spielberg portrays his parents is far from unflattering or warts-and-all, but it's not adulatory either; he gives them their due as human beings trying like hell to be good spouses and parents. There's



nothing like the discord between Richard Dreyfuss and Teri Garr in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, in which one parent has to leave the family to follow happiness. But a man in his thirties directed that, and a man in his seventies has directed *The Fabelmans*, which allows that the frequently suggested path of seeking one's bliss, whatever that might do to one's relationships, is not easy.

Spielberg gives us a few fun, amusing montages showing young Sam making westerns or war pictures, but they don't seem central. *The Fabelmans* uses the filmmaking sequences to bring out the theme of compassion through one's art, and that isn't confined to movies. Spielberg's handling of the kid who punches Sam is interesting and worth discussing. Filming his senior class' "ditch day" at the beach, Sam could easily make the kid look foolish, but instead the camera lingers on the kid's shirtless virtuosity at the volleyball net. After the movie screens for the class, the kid, upset, doesn't understand why Sam filmed him so iconically. Sam doesn't either. Sometimes the camera knows what it likes, and sometimes it likes bullies. The script by Spielberg and Tony Kushner has these sorts of ambiguities running all through it.

Spielberg's direction is clean and free of unnecessary motion. He takes a page from John Ford (wonderfully embodied here by David Lynch), who crustily advises young Sam to pay attention to the horizon in his shots. The horizon's placement, as the director of *The Searchers* knew, can lock in a thousand words in one image, and Spielberg does likewise here. In *The Searchers*, the famous last shot visually contains John Wayne in a frame formed by a doorway and the horizon, suggesting his character's ethos is better off boxed up or buried. Spielberg turns the horizon into a quick visual joke that nonetheless tilts up to offer Sam the sky and all its limits. It's a generous, smoothly rendered work, among Spielberg's best.

limited to six students. Register at [marionartcenter.org/adult-classes](http://marionartcenter.org/adult-classes).

Registration is open for the winter and spring sessions of MAC Dance Academy. Instructor Erin Murphy hosts classes for preschool, beginner and intermediate, each meeting for half an hour on Monday afternoons at the Marion Art Center. MAC Dance Academy is a low-key, low-cost dance program geared toward girls and boys ages 3-12. The five-class winter session begins on Monday, **January 23** and costs \$95 for MAC members and \$105 for nonmembers. The 10-class spring session begins on March 13 and costs \$175 for MAC members and \$195 for nonmembers. To learn more, see the full schedule for both sessions, and to register, visit [marionartcenter.org/mac-dance-academy](http://marionartcenter.org/mac-dance-academy).

Music Instructor Colin Bradley offers guitar, piano and more, one-on-one music lessons for all ages and skill levels, for kids and adults. Lessons are scheduled Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons through early evenings at the MAC. Half-hour lessons focus on the training of the ear, improvisation, songwriting and music reading comprehension. Instruments of study include guitar, bass, ukulele, slide guitar, piano and more. The five-week winter session begins on **January 17 and 18** and costs \$175 for MAC members and \$195 for nonmembers. The seven-week spring session begins on **February 28 and March 1** and costs \$245 for MAC members and \$270 for nonmembers. Registrants will receive 10% back on lessons

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when purchasing tuition for two or more people from the same household. Spots fill quickly, and lesson times will be determined on a first-come first-serve basis, depending on availability. A third day of lessons may be added. Early registration is strongly recommended. Learn more and register online at [marionartcenter.org/kids-music-lessons](http://marionartcenter.org/kids-music-lessons).

### Senior Circuit Breaker Alert for Rochester

Rochester's property tax bills will be mailed out in **January 2023**. For those seniors who claim the Mass Senior Circuit Breaker, the second property tax bill must be paid by **December 31, 2022**. An estimated amount will be acceptable.





# TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



*The Seaglass Theater Company entertained a standing-room-only crowd at the Mattapoisett Public Library on December 10. The concert featured many holiday favorites, including show tunes. Photo by Marilou Newell*



*The December 10 Holiday in the Park event found the Town of Mattapoisett awash in families having fun. Food and music added to the festive atmosphere, and the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Claus (Mr. and Mrs. Milton Heuberger), Frosty the Snowman (Brian Hiller), one of Santa's reindeer (Ashling McLoughlin) and one of the big guy's most trusted Elves (Jen Scott) brought smiles and picture opportunities. At 5:00 pm, the Christmas tree decorated by Center School students was illuminated. Photos by Marilou Newell*



*Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived by boat for Marion's annual Christmas Stroll held on December 11. Photos by Robert Price*



*Maryann Brier shared this photo from the Marion Christmas Stroll.*

**These photos and more are available online at [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)**





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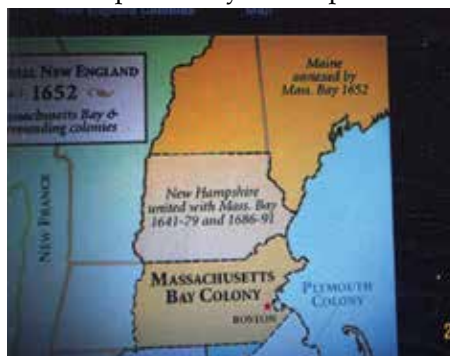
309 Front Street, Marion

## From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society

By Connie Eshbach

One of the hazards of reading through historical articles and news clippings is how easy it is to get sidetracked. Some interesting item pops up, and 20 minutes later, you are still engrossed in something totally unrelated to what you were planning to research. There's a very thick book in our museum collection titled, "Anthony Coombs and Dorcas Woodin of Rochester, Massachusetts, Their origins and descendants". Anthony Coombs has been mentioned previously as he operated Rochester's first blacksmith shop and forge in the area of East Over. I was interested in knowing more about him.

The book is essentially a genealogical history of the Coombs family in New England. The author starts off by saying that more than 30 immigrants with the name of Coombs immigrated to New England and that most did not share our Anthony's family line. Here is where I went astray. They might not have been related, but they were interesting.



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One of the first was Hardman Coombs who "was found by a British frigate in an open boat off Sequin Island with five women and no oars". Boy, would I like to know more about that story. This occurred around 1607 and north of the Kennebec River in what is today Maine.

There was an Isaac Coombs who showed up in Weymouth in 1632; John Coombs who arrived in Plymouth in 1630 and Henry Coombs who was in Salem and Marblehead in 1635. There's more information on Peter Coombs who was in Massachusetts Bay Colony from 1670-1675. He was a blacksmith and was prohibited from "frequenting of publique houses of entertainment upon the penaltie of law". He went on to serve in the Salem militia during King Philip's War.

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# TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



Organized by Tara Rajaniemi and Chuck Talley, the Congregational Church collected gift cards for local neighbors with less this season. The manger and artistic livestock made a setting for the retelling of the birth of Jesus - an autobiography in this staging. Elliot Talley narrated. A DIY performance was enjoyed by all! There were ad hoc shepherds and magi as surprise roles (with costumes) for those in pews. Blessings overflowed the gift basket holding the donated cards. Photos courtesy of Jen Shepley

Nine Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School students were inducted into the Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School Chapter of the National Honor Society on December 7. From left, front row: NHS Student Officers Ronan Gleason, Bryce Moulding, Jonathan Mello, Braden Coryer, Brayden McWilliams, Georgia Webber, Jillian Astore, Maeve West and Dennis Theoharidis. Back row: NHS Student Officers Abigail Goodwin, Henry Knox, Evan Bostwick, Meredith Connor and Miranda Buckley, and NHS Advisor - John Kelly. Photo courtesy of Upper Cape Tech



On December 7, the Museum of Natural History's afterschool group learned how an owl catches and consumes its prey and what happens to undigestible remains. By dissecting owl pellets left from a Barn Owl, the students had an opportunity to find the bones of the owl's prey. The remains included skulls, teeth, ribs and two bird beaks. We used the museum's microscopes and magnifiers to identify the animal skulls by how their teeth are placed in the jaws. We also had a great time exploring the owls in the museum's collections and a little about their history and how they came to be in the museum. To view the museum's upcoming programs, please check them out on the museum's website: [marionmuseum.com](http://marionmuseum.com). Photos courtesy of Elizabeth Leidhold

These photos and more are available online at [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)



A connection to the Coombs that I was supposed to be researching shows up related to Maine, and now I'll digress again. In 1652, Massachusetts Bay Colony claimed Maine under a 1628 charter. Over the ensuing years, Maine's status was frequently changing. An independent government was set up in 1666, but two years later, it was again under Massachusetts control. In 1691, a Massachusetts charter given by William and Mary designated Maine as a district of Massachusetts, and since Maine was essentially a less crowded part of Massachusetts, quite a few early settlers in our area also owned land there.

An Alistair Coombs, who took an oath of allegiance to the King of England in 1665, claimed a large tract of land in today's Brunswick, Maine. There is some thought that he might be a relative of Anthony Coombs because between 1730 and 1750, four of Anthony's sons along with grandchildren bought land in the same area.

Wells, York County, Province of Massachusetts Bay Colony is where we finally meet up with our Rochester Anthony who was born Antoine Coombs in 1661. He appeared in New England along with another Frenchman. In 1688, he married his neighbor, Dorcas Woodin. Because Maine was dangerous during parts of the French and Indian Wars, he sent Dorcas to Massachusetts, first Essex and then Beverly and Wenham, while he stayed in Wells, Maine. He must have visited her often as they had 12 children. In the end they also had 94 grandchildren, 304 great grandchildren, 984 great-great grandchildren and on into the 5th, 6th and 7th generations.

By 1697, he gave up on owning land in Wells and relocated his family to Sandwich where he set up a forge. By early 1700, he and Dorcas accepted the invitation from the town of Rochester to move there and set up a blacksmith shop and forge not far from the gristmill and on the outflow of the Sippican River. They were given 40 acres of land. His forge and smithy were a success, and Coombs went on to be active in town where he held several offices: town surveyor, manager of the Herring Weir at Snipatuit Pond and a tithing man. He was also one of the seven men who in 1703 signed the covenant

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# Super Crossword

ZERO  
CHECKING

## ACROSS

- 1 James of "Alien Nation"  
5 Lead-in to hazard  
8 "My opinion is ..."  
13 Tried very hard  
19 Tumblers, e.g.  
21 Actress Hunt  
22 Fatal  
23 Start of a riddle  
26 Strong metal  
27 Vertical line on a graph  
28 Attack like an alligator  
29 Land north of Mex.  
30 — country (music genre)  
32 Peruvian of yore  
34 Toronto Maple —  
37 Riddle, part 2  
44 Wild party  
47 Battle (for)  
48 See 60-Down  
49 Triumphed  
50 "Right now!"  
51 First class for painters  
53 City law: Abbr.  
54 Sea predator  
56 Actor Mickey  
57 Paint crudely

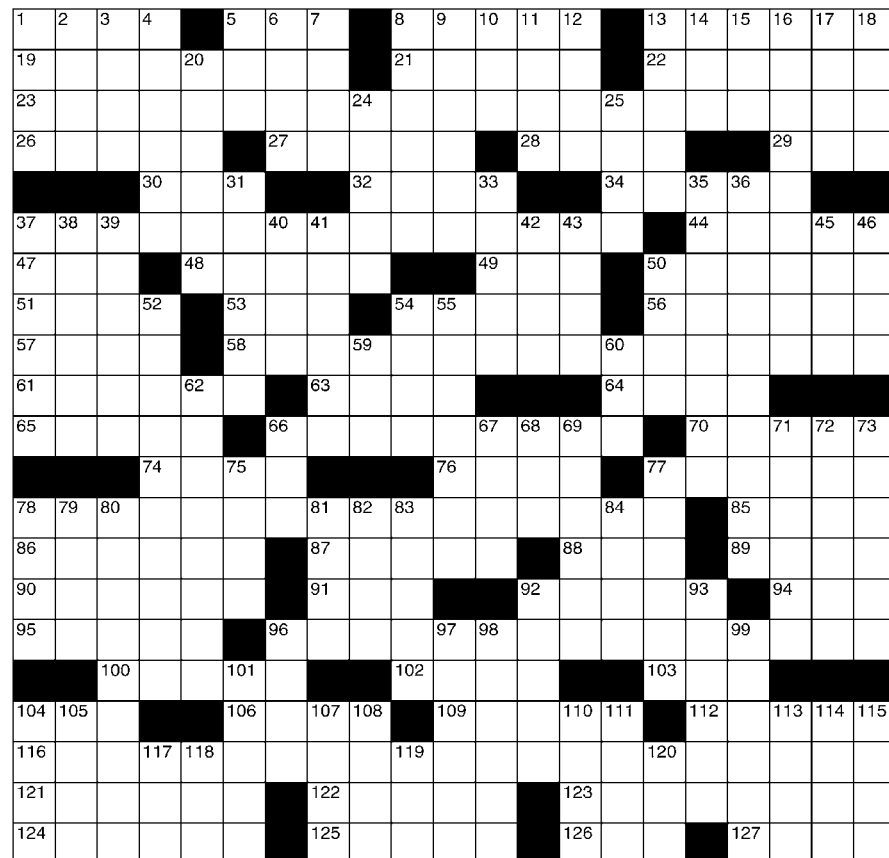
- 58 Riddle, part 3  
61 Borgnine of Hollywood  
63 Gulf country  
64 Sandler of "Spanglish"  
65 Refine, as metal  
66 What a hot rod may race on  
70 Words on an apartment rental sign  
74 Strong metal  
76 City near Provo  
77 Purple Hearts, e.g.  
78 Riddle, part 4  
85 Composer  
86 Apple app for importing video  
87 "I suffer so!"  
88 Pan coverer  
89 Gave for a while  
90 Sole servings  
91 Buddhism branch  
92 Just kills time  
94 Two, in Spain  
95 Occupied  
96 End of the riddle  
100 For the — (temporarily)  
102 Blow a horn  
103 Stephen of "Blackthorn"

- 104 Flower holder  
106 Kailua Bay locale  
109 Creator of Tom Sawyer  
112 Gave a monetary penalty  
116 Riddle's answer  
121 Nogales nap  
122 How figure skaters skate  
123 Of financial matters  
124 Rich, eggy cakes  
125 Entertained lavishly  
126 Boxing ref's ruling  
127 Court dividers  
**DOWN**  
1 Cornfield cries  
2 Eight, in Berlin  
3 Actor Gross of "Ellen"  
4 "The negotiation is off!"  
5 Severe  
6 — bitty  
7 Org. that inspects factories  
8 Fighting — (NCAA team)

- 9 Utter failure  
10 Sever  
11 Competitor of Ben & Jerry's  
12 Yard feature  
13 Place to ski  
14 Vietnamese holiday  
15 Road sign no.  
16 "Banjo on my knee" song  
17 Winery tubs  
18 "Frozen" snow queen  
20 — Hollywood Screen Kiss" (1998 film)  
24 Be alive  
25 Fifty percent  
31 Talk show emcee, e.g.  
33 Egypt's Sadat  
35 Formally abolish  
36 Displayed example of a product  
37 Gives the slip to  
38 Aviation military branch  
39 Fix the pitch of again  
40 Architect Saarinen  
41 Sierra Nevada evergreen

- 42 Blister, e.g.  
43 Like GIs peeling potatoes  
45 Flower holder  
46 Santa's bagful  
50 Egg on  
52 "Yes, if memory serves"  
54 Benefit bagful  
55 Chewbacca's companion  
59 — la-la  
60 With 48-Across, record of arrests, slangily  
62 Put in financial distress  
66 Gene-splicing stuff  
67 Verifiable  
68 No longer practicing: Abbr.  
69 Marcos of the Philippines  
71 Texas city  
72 Poet Wylie or novelist Glyn  
73 Double cluck of reproach  
75 Some till bills  
77 Sweetie  
78 LP player of old

- 79 Uganda's Idi  
80 Donator of services  
81 Old TV clown  
82 "Fer —!" ("Like, totally!")  
83 Take responsibility for something  
84 Easter flower  
92 Spot's jingler  
93 Tennis player Edberg  
96 Fava —  
97 Catch sight of  
98 Dressed for a ball  
99 Serve, as at a restaurant  
101 Concluding musical parts  
104 "You, over there ..."  
105 Dayton locale  
107 Horse foot  
108 — Reader (eclectic quarterly)  
110 "Oh, sure!"  
111 Part of a vase  
113 Alaska city  
114 Revise text  
115 "ER" folks  
117 Marshall Plan prez  
118 Swallowed  
119 Big success  
120 Overly



# SALOME'S STARS

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Restless Rams and Ewes might want to let others finish a current project while they start something new. But if you do, you could risk losing out on a future opportunity.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) The Bovine's creative forces start revving up as you plan for the upcoming holidays. Some practical aspects also emerge, especially where money is involved.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Moments of doubt disrupt your otherwise clear sense of purpose. Don't ignore them. They could be telling you not to rush into anything until you know more about it.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) A planned trip might have to be delayed. Plan to use this new free time to update your skills and your resume so you'll be ready when a new job opportunity opens.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) A flood of holiday party bids from business contacts allows you to mix work and pleasure. Your knowledge, plus your Leonine charm, wins you a new slew of admirers.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) An unexpected act by a colleague complicates an agreement, causing delays in implementing it. Check out the motive for this move: It's not what you might suspect.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) You might want to cut ties with an ingrate who seems to have forgotten your past generosity. But there might be a reason for this behavior that you should be in the know about. Ask.  
**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Be careful not to set things in stone. Much could happen over the next several days that will make you rethink some decisions, and maybe change them.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Your plans to help provide holiday cheer for the less fortunate inspire others to follow your generous example. Expect welcome news by week's end.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) You're in your glory as you start planning for the holiday season ahead. But leave time to deal with a problem that needs a quick and fair resolution.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) The upcoming holiday season provides a perfect setting for strengthening relationships with kin and others. A new contact has important information.


**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Instead of fretting over a cutting remark by a co-worker, chalk it up to an outburst of envy of your well-respected status among both your colleagues and superiors.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You instinctively know when to be serious and when to be humorous -- attributes everyone finds endearing.

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that established the First Church of Rochester.

In all, Anthony and Dorcas lived in Rochester for 46 years, and in that time, he was involved in 21 real estate deals and at one time owned 150 acres. There are no church records or tombstones found for either Anthony or Dorcas. It is believed that Dorcas died by 1763 at the age of 65. Anthony lived on much longer as he can be traced by his various deeds. It is likely that he died in 1754 at the advanced age of 93 after playing an important role in Rochester's early years.

### Upcoming Events at the Elizabeth Taber Library

Saturday Storytimes! Our next story time will be on Saturday, **December 17**. Play, read and create with us!

Cookbook Swap, Thursday, **December 15** from 4-6 pm. Trade in a gently used cookbook for one that's new to you, and browse our unique collection of used cookbooks for sale. Light refreshments will be served.

Holiday Book Sale indoors at the Library, Thursday, **December 15** to Saturday, **December 17**. Find the perfect last-minute holiday gift; books, ETL T-shirts, puzzles, games & more! All sales benefit the library.

Build a Bear Workshop, Friday, **December 30** from 4-5 pm. Limit 15 participants, call the library to sign up. This workshop is not open to those who have participated in previous Build a Bear Workshop.

Food drive to support the Marion Food Pantry.

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Support the Marion Food Pantry by dropping off donations of shelf-stable food, pet supplies or unopened hygiene and cleaning products to the Elizabeth Taber Library throughout November and December.

For more information on the Elizabeth Taber Library, visit us at [www.ElizabethTaberLibrary.org](http://www.ElizabethTaberLibrary.org) or call us at 508-748-1252.

### Marion Lagoon Lining Project

Rep. Bill Straus (D-Mattapoisett) announced that the Town of Marion will be receiving an additional \$250,000 from the Department of Environmental Protection for the Marion Lagoon Lining project. In 2018, Rep. Straus authored a targeted legislative earmark to

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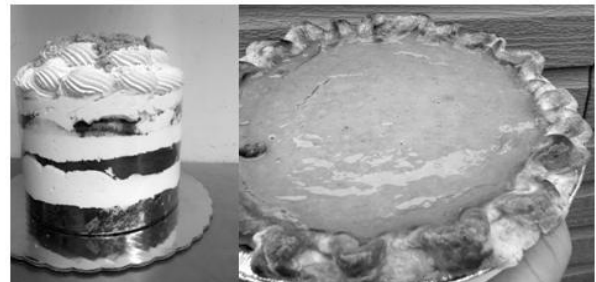


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LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES
<p><b>TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT ROAD CLOSURE PUBLIC NOTICE</b></p> <p>Antassawamock Club, Inc. will close its Private roads to public traffic on Wednesday, December 21, 2022. Signed: Board of Directors Antassawamock Club, Inc. Susan Chapman Moss, Secretary 12/8, 12/15</p> <hr/> <p><b>TOWN OF MARION SELECT BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</b></p> <p>Amendment to On Premises, All Alcoholic Beverages License – Alteration of Premises The Kittansett Club, INC 11 Point Road</p> <p>The Marion Select Board, acting as local licensing authority, will hold a public hearing on Wednesday January 4, 2023, at 6:15 pm at the Marion Police Station, 550 Mill Street, Marion, on the application of The Kittansett Club, INC to alter the premises (interior renovated bar and added exterior bar on deck under a pavilion). Randy L. Parker, Chairman 12/8, 12/15</p> <hr/> <p><b>TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT ROAD CLOSURE PUBLIC NOTICE</b></p> <p>The owners of Old Wood Road and Harbor Acres Lane are closing these roads to the public on December 30, 2022 Williams E. Mansfield 12/15, 12/22</p> <hr/>	<p><b>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WATERWAYS REGULATION PROGRAM</b></p> <p>Notice of License Application Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 91 Waterways License Application Number 22-WW01-0155-APP Site Location : 33 East Avenue, Marion, MA Barbara L. Grainger Trust - 1994 NOTIFICATION DATE: December 15, 2022</p> <p>Public notice is hereby given of the Waterways application by the Barbara L. Grainger Trust – 1994 to install and maintain a float, gangway and float piles at 33 East Avenue in the municipality of Marion, in and over the waters of the Planting Island Cove. The proposed project has been determined to be water-dependent.</p> <p>The Department will consider all written comments on this Waterways application received within 30 days subsequent to the “Notification Date”. Failure of any aggrieved person or group of ten citizens or more, with at least five of the ten residents residing in the municipality(s) in which the license or permitted activity is located, to submit written comments to the Waterways Regulation Program by the Public Comment Deadline will result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 310 CMR 9.13(4)(c).</p> <p>Project plans and documents for the Waterways application are on file for public viewing electronically at: <a href="https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/EEA/PublicApp/">https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/EEA/PublicApp/</a> (enter the project address in the Search Page as the Location Address). If you need assistance, please contact <a href="mailto:andy.jones@mass.gov">andy.jones@mass.gov</a> or if you do not have access to email, please leave a voicemail at (508)946-2785 and you will be contacted with information on alternative options.</p>	<p>Written comments must be addressed to: Andrew L. Jones, Environmental Analyst, DEP Waterways Regulation Program, 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville, MA 02347. 12/15</p> <hr/> <p><b>TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</b></p> <p>The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall (in person and remotely via Zoom **) on the Notice of Intent submitted by Paul &amp; Jayne St. Pierre, 25 Main Street, Map 10, Lot 50 in Mattapoisett, MA. The applicant proposes to widen and resurface the driveway serving the residence and perform limited grading at certain areas of the site, accompanied with a subsurface recharge system, to alleviate occasional standing water on the parcel within 100-feet of a wetland resource (off the property) and within an area of coastal storm flowage. **Contact <a href="mailto:concomm@mattapoisett.net">concomm@mattapoisett.net</a> for the Zoom Meeting Information. 12/15</p> <hr/> <p><b>TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</b></p> <p>The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall (in person and remotely via Zoom **) on the Notice of Intent submitted by the Town of Mattapoisett Select Board. The Town proposes to reconstruct Old Slough Road (from Bowman Road to Angelica Avenue). **Contact <a href="mailto:concomm@mattapoisett.net">concomm@mattapoisett.net</a> for the Zoom Meeting Information. 12/15</p>



## REGIONAL LUNCH MENUS

### COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM

**Monday, Dec 19:** Hot dog, baked beans, cabbage & carrots, hot dog roll, pears

**Tuesday, Dec 20:** Kale soup, Portuguese chicken, tomato rice, whole wheat roll, fresh banana

**Wednesday, Dec 21:** Sweet & sour meatballs, brown/white rice, Jardiniere blend, oatmeal roll, mixed fruit

**Thursday, Dec 22:** American chop suey, winter blend vegetable, multigrain roll, sugar cookie, diet: sugar free cookie  
**Friday, Dec 23:** Salmon w/cream sauce, red bliss potatoes, peas, scali bread, fresh orange

### CENTER SCHOOL

**Monday, Dec 19:** Kayem hot dog on whole grain bun, BBQ baked beans, oven baked French fries  
**Tuesday, Dec 20:** Taco Tuesday, lack bean salad

**Wednesday, Dec 21:** Warm ham, egg & cheese breakfast sandwich, hashbrown patty, orange smiles  
**Thursday, Dec 22:** Chicken

parmesan served over lightly buttered pasta, steamed carrots, warm bread  
**Friday, Dec 23:** Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### OLD HAMMONDTOWN

**Monday, Dec 19:** Kayem hot dog on whole grain bun, BBQ baked beans, oven baked French fries  
**Tuesday, Dec 20:** Taco Tuesday, lack bean salad

**Wednesday, Dec 21:** Warm ham, egg & cheese breakfast sandwich, hashbrown patty, orange smiles  
**Thursday, Dec 22:** Chicken parmesan served over lightly buttered pasta, steamed carrots, warm bread  
**Friday, Dec 23:** Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

**Monday, Dec 19:** Kayem hot dog on whole grain bun, BBQ baked beans, oven baked French fries  
**Tuesday, Dec 20:** Taco Tuesday,

lack bean salad  
**Wednesday, Dec 21:** Warm ham, egg & cheese breakfast sandwich, hashbrown patty, orange smiles  
**Thursday, Dec 22:** Chicken parmesan served over lightly buttered pasta, steamed carrots, warm bread  
**Friday, Dec 23:** Breakfast served – no lunch

### ROCHESTER MEMORIAL

**Monday, Dec 19:** Kayem hot dog on whole grain bun, BBQ baked beans, oven baked French fries  
**Tuesday, Dec 20:** Taco Tuesday, lack bean salad  
**Wednesday, Dec 21:** Warm ham, egg & cheese breakfast sandwich, hashbrown patty, orange smiles  
**Thursday, Dec 22:** Chicken parmesan served over lightly buttered pasta, steamed carrots, warm bread  
**Friday, Dec 23:** Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### SIPPICAN SCHOOL

**Monday, Dec 19:** Kayem hot dog on whole grain bun, BBQ baked beans, oven baked French fries  
**Tuesday, Dec 20:** Taco Tuesday, lack bean salad  
**Wednesday, Dec 21:** Warm ham, egg & cheese breakfast sandwich, hashbrown patty, orange smiles  
**Thursday, Dec 22:** Chicken parmesan served over lightly buttered pasta, steamed carrots, warm bread  
**Friday, Dec 23:** Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### OLD COLONY REGIONAL

**Monday, Dec 19:** Orange chicken bowl & dinner roll  
**Tuesday, Dec 20:** Cheese pizza quesadilla & fries  
**Wednesday, Dec 21:** Spaghetti & meatballs, green beans & garlic bread  
**Thursday, Dec 22:** Linguica sandwich & fries  
**Friday, Dec 23:** No school

the Environmental funding bill to secure funding for the lagoon relining.

"This project in Marion is an environmental plus for the town and Buzzards Bay. I am glad to have successfully helped the town secure this added state funding for an additional \$250,000 to help defray the costs borne by sewer users in Marion. This vital project provides the benefit of a better sewer treatment facility in Marion," said Rep. Straus.

The original 2018 state funding authorization was for \$2 million and with this payment, Marion will have received \$1,250,000. The town can expect to receive this disbursement from DEP during the current fiscal year. Rep. Straus will continue to work with the Town and DEP to ensure that all available funds are released during future fiscal years.

### **Tinkhamtown Chapel Annual Christmas Carol Singalong**

The annual Tinkhamtown Chapel Annual Christmas Carol Singalong will take place on Saturday, **December 17** at 5:00 pm at the Tinkhamtown Chapel, Acushnet Road and Tinkham Lane. Join your friends and neighbors as we sing the classic carols in a 19th century chapel. Light refreshments will be served. Anyone wishing to take part by singing a solo or accompanying the group or would like to contribute to the refreshments, please call Gail at 508-758-9559 or email [peggsmom@gmail.com](mailto:peggsmom@gmail.com).

### **Tri-Town Against Racism Community Book Club to Discuss Gender Queer**

In response to community debate on whether or not certain books should be available in our school libraries, TTAR is hosting a book club to discuss one of the books that has been the subject of controversy. Gender Queer, a graphic memoir written and illustrated by Maia Kobabe will be discussed. The meeting is on Thursday, **December 15** at 7:00 pm at the Friends Meeting House Community Hall, 103 Marion Road, Mattapoisett. All are welcome. Registration is required, [bit.ly/ttarcbc](http://bit.ly/ttarcbc).



Members of St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church youth group rehearse for the Christmas pageant. They will be joined by younger members of the church and Tri-Town community to perform "A Charlie Brown Christmas" pageant at 5:00 pm Sunday, December 18, at St Gabriel's Church in Marion. All are welcome to come and watch. Join Charlie Brown, Snoopy and his friends to find out about the real meaning of Christmas. There will be refreshments after the performance. Photos by Tanya Ambrosi



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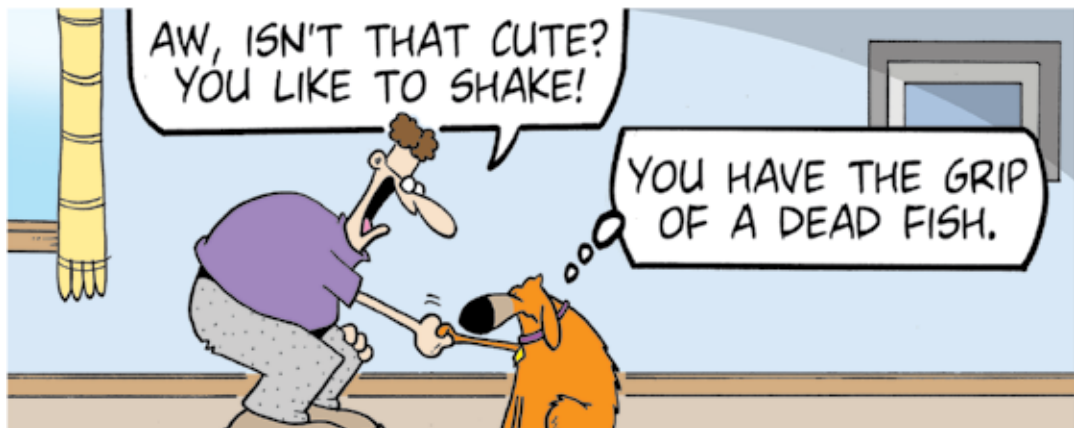
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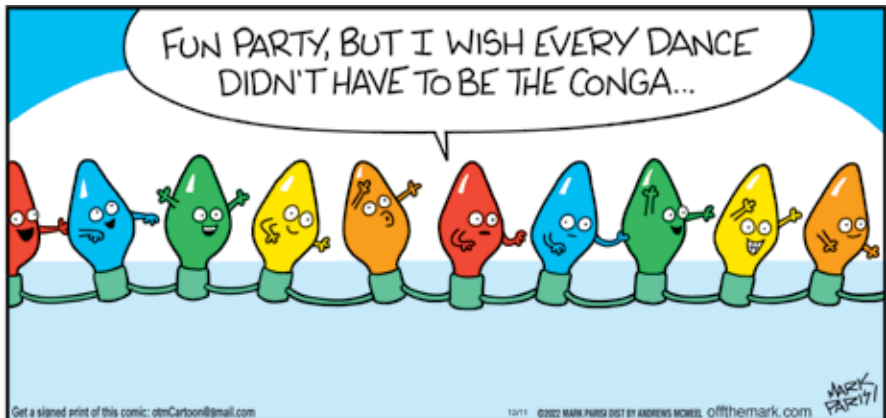
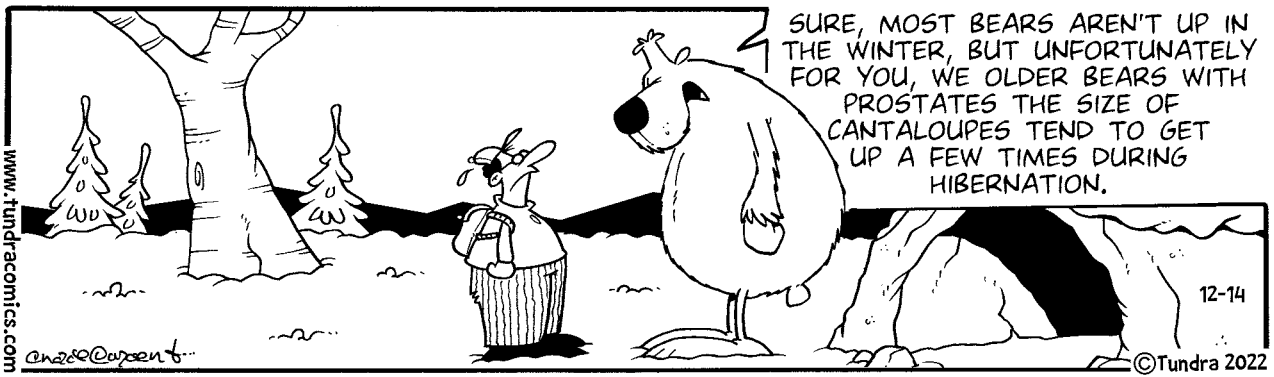
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### **New England's Nature: Watercolors and Acrylics**

Come to the Mattapoisett Free Public Library from **December 15 to January 14** to see an exhibit of watercolor and acrylic paintings by South Dartmouth artist Peggy Call-Conley. Call-Conley earned her BFA in Art Education from Southeastern MA University. She found her artistic inspiration early, and a childhood move from Boston to rural Middleboro afforded Peggy solace and adventures in nature. These were reinforced when she arrived in the SouthCoast for college, living in New Bedford and the coastal villages of Dartmouth and Adamsville. She eventually made her home in South

Dartmouth and taught art in private and public schools for 35 years. Call-Conley has travelled to the Maine coast annually for art retreats, creating photographs and paintings that reflect her passion for the ocean and rocky coastline. Graduate courses in art developed her desire to pursue fine arts further, especially with watercolor painting. She currently teaches adult watercolor classes at the Dartmouth Grange. Her acrylic and watercolor paintings are in private, local, national and international collections. She has done commissions for private home views and landscapes of sentimental value for patrons. Call-Conley has earned numerous awards in juried exhibitions, including the 2015 and 2016 David Aldrich Award for Excellence in the juried Little Compton

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**BOB'S LAWN SERVICE**  
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Book now for fall leave clean-up

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**Canvases, finishing, lessons & more**  
**Monthly Trunk Shows with rotating artists**  
**Padanaram Village**  
**1 Bridge Street, South Dartmouth**  
**Open Weds through Sunday**

WANTED DEAD or ALIVE!  
cars, trucks, farm equipment, construction equip-  
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Louie: 508-951-1374

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for salvage & parts. Paying cash. Free pickup  
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**WINSOME QUALITY PAINTING CO.**  
Interior/Exterior  
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winsomepaintingco@gmail.com

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☐ Immediately ☐ Renewal

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P.O. Box 102  
55 County Road  
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Order on line at:  
www.wanderer.com

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

3			5				4
	4			9	2		6
		5		8	1		
		2		5		4	
8				9			7
	3		6				2
4				2			9
		3	4		7		
	1			6			8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way  
that each row across, each column down and  
each small 9-box square contains all of the  
numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then  
rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Chirp

**BAWLER**

Mean

**DINES**

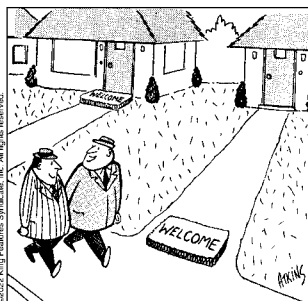
Subtle

**INFAT**

Assist

**VERSE**

**TODAY'S WORD**



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Summer Art Show. She is an exhibiting member of the Marion Art Center, Rhode Island Watercolor Society and exhibits annually on The Art Drive Studio Tour in Dartmouth, Massachusetts. Call-Conley is a current Gallery Artist at True Grit Art Gallery in Middleboro, Massachusetts.

The library is handicapped accessible, and programs are free and open to the public.

### **Christmas Day Swim to Benefit Helping Hands and Hooves**

Please join us for a fun family tradition that helps those in need. Helping Hands and Hooves will host the 19th annual **Christmas Day Swim** at 11:00 am at Mattapoisett Town Beach.

Each swimmer is asked to give a donation of \$15 (payable on the day of the swim.) The first 75 swimmers will receive a festive long-sleeved T-shirt. 100% of the proceeds will benefit Helping Hands and Hooves - a 501c(3) non-profit based in Mattapoisett that is dedicated to providing therapeutic horseback riding lessons for adults with disabilities.

If you would like to learn more about Helping Hands and Hooves, please go to our website: [helpinghandsandhooves.org](http://helpinghandsandhooves.org). If you have any questions, please call Debbi Dyson at (508) 758-4717 or email [info@helpinghandsandhooves.org](mailto:info@helpinghandsandhooves.org).



**Colonial Shutterworks**

Interior/Exterior Shutters - Historic Replications - Storm/Screen Doors



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### **2022-2023 Blue Book**

The 2022-2023 Blue Book has been mailed. We would like to thank all of this edition's advertisers. If you did not receive one, they are available at three locations: Eastern Bank, 340 Front St., Marion; The Wanderer, 55 County Road, Mattapoisett and Plumb Memorial Library, 17 Constitution Way, Rochester. If you have received a copy but would like another, please consider a donation to the League of Women Voters, South Coast.

More information available at: [lwvmmr.org/phonebook/](http://lwvmmr.org/phonebook/).

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## **Live Music**

(5:30-7:30pm)

12/14 Neal McCarthy  
12/15 Kennedy McKay  
12/21 Interlude  
12/22 Seamus Galligan

## **TACO TUESDAYS**

**Sunday Brunch**  
**10-2**

Order online at  
[www.walrusbistro.com](http://www.walrusbistro.com)  
508-758-8124

At the Ropewalk Mall  
Route 6, Mattapoisett



## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Mattapoisett Museum seeks a Part-Time Curator/Administrator

The Mattapoisett Museum has an immediate opening for a part-time Curator/Administrator. Are you the professional who can help bring alive Mattapoisett's vibrant history? We are looking for a highly motivated and well-organized individual who can cope with varied demands and responsibilities effectively, with the initiative and creativity to propose new ideas and advise on best practices. The curator/administrator will develop programs, exhibitions, and events. Other duties include: attending monthly Board meetings and following up on action points; processing memberships and donations, and related correspondence; welcoming museum visitors and researchers; producing and distributing the Museum's newsletter. The ideal candidate must be technologically-savvy, maintain our online presence and manage our collections and membership databases, and have experience and proficiency in office administration, managing inquiries, publicity, and fundraising. A passion for history is essential. The Curator/Administrator works two days on-site, some weekends seasonally. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university is preferred. To apply, send a letter of interest, resume, and contact information for three references to [mattapoisettmuseumresearch@gmail.com](mailto:mattapoisettmuseumresearch@gmail.com)

The application deadline is December 23, 2022. 20 hours/week; \$25/hr. No phone calls accepted. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Mattapoisett museum is an equal-opportunity employer. For a full job description and more information please visit [www.mattapoisettmuseum.org](http://www.mattapoisettmuseum.org)

**Mattapoisett Winter Rental** ~ Crescent Beach Beautiful Home ~ Fully furnished ~ 2 br, 1 bath \$2000 + Utilities (Includes WiFi)  
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## CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

**Classified Policy:** All Classified Advertisements must be prepaid and can be placed at our office or on line at [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com).

**Classified Deadline:** Tuesday at 10:00 am for Thursday's paper.

**Classified Rates:**  
Classified Advertisements are \$5.00 for 3 lines or less per week. Each additional line is \$1.00 per week. There are an average of six words per line. Bold is an addition \$1 per week.

**Classified Guidelines:**  
\*As a general rule, there are approximately six words per line in a standard Classified Ad.  
\*Blank lines cannot be used in Classified Advertisements.  
\*There is only upper case and lower case lettering.  
\*No graphics may be used in Classified Advertisements.  
\*Classified Ads cannot be placed on hold.  
\*Classified Ads cannot be taken over the phone.

**Mailing Classified Ads:** Ads can be mailed with payment to P.O. Box 102, Mattapoisett, MA 02739

**Placing Classified Ads On-line:** Ads can be placed on line at: [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)

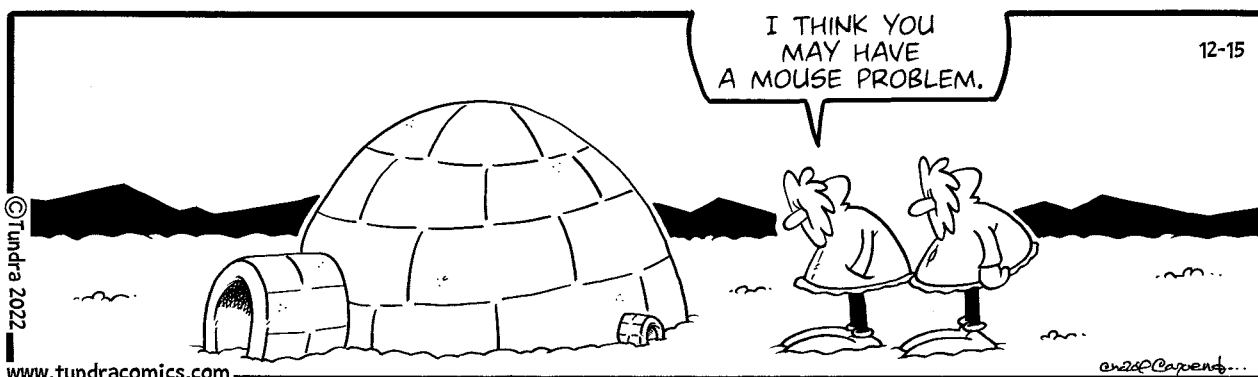
**Dropping Off Classified Advertisements:** Ads can be dropped by our office at 55 County Road in Mattapoisett, Monday, Thurs, Fri -9am to 3pm; Tuesday 9am to noon

**Payment Policy:** All sales final, we do not offer credits or refunds.

**Legal Advertisements:**  
\*Legal Ads are \$1.00 per line, at a minimum of \$25. per ad.

**Tundra**  
by Chad Carpenter

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12-15

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### **FCCR Christmas Worship Gatherings**

First Congregational Church of Rochester, 11 Constitution Way in Rochester, 508-763-4314, is pleased to announce its Christmas worship schedule. We invite you to worship with us! All gatherings will be live streamed on our website, [www.rochestercongregational.com](http://www.rochestercongregational.com).

**December 18** at 10:00 am – On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, we will light the Candle of Love as we recognize the love that sent Christ to earth to pay the price for all our sins.

**December 24** at 7:00 pm – During this candlelight Christmas Eve worship gathering, we will light the Christ Candle as our waiting comes to an end and we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.



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Average size room, 2 coats on walls, \$300  
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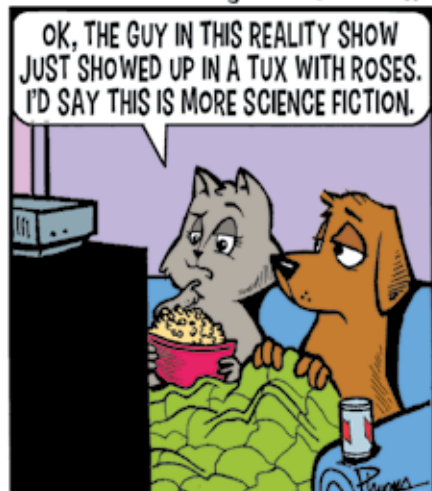
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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Don't forget to wish these people a Happy Birthday!

Daneen Eilertsen	December 16
Brandon Garde	December 17
Donna Walther	December 17
Kimberley Goguen	December 17
Molly Janicki	December 17
Thomas DeCosta	December 17
Judy Anthony	December 18
Kenly Hiller	December 18
Palmer W. Clingman	December 18
Peter MacLean	December 18
Alex Cordeiro	December 19
Brittany M. Lestage	December 19
Hillary Collyer	December 19
Luz Jackivicz	December 19
Sara Achorn	December 19
Sylvia Longworth	December 19
Brenda Rogers	December 20
Erin Burke	December 20
Kaitlin Kelley	December 20
Nancy Duff	December 20
Billy Osborne	December 21
Elvira Souza	December 21
Michael Cordeiro	December 21
Yasmin Vincent	December 21

If you would like *The Wanderer* to announce a birthday for yourself, a friend or family member, please submit your information on line to us at [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com). To submit information by regular mail, please send the person's name (month and day) along with your name and phone number so we can confirm the information to Birthdays, c/o The Wanderer, P.O. Box 102, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. You may submit birthday announcements anytime during the year and they will be published/posted during the appropriate week.





**December 25** at 10:00 am – On Christmas Day, we will learn how Jesus illuminates our life with glorious light, allowing us to discover dependable truth in the midst of a confusing world.

## Great Decisions 2023 Information and Registration

This year the Mattapoissett Woman's Club will again offer the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions program, which is America's largest discussion group on world and domestic affairs. It will meet on Wednesdays from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm for eight consecutive weeks beginning on **January 18, 2023** and ending on **March 8, 2023**.

The discussion program is cosponsored by the Mattapoissett Woman's Club and the Mattapoissett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow Street, where the sessions are held downstairs in the Community Room, which is accessible at the side entrance, using the first floor elevator. Jennifer Jones, Director of the Mattapoissett Free Public Library, also offers the Zoom platform and she, along with her staff members, are always available to assist participants in researching additional materials.

Each year during the program's meetings, participants find that the topics are meaningful, current and offer ways to research, express opinions and seek out experts on each issue. Guests are often invited to share their specialty in the area of the topic, and during the discussions, participants often wish that there was even more time to investigate and discover further ideas and decision options.

For the 2023 session, the topics are: Energy Geopolitics, War Crimes China and the U.S. Economic Warfare, Politics in Latin America, Global Famine, Iran at a Crossroads and Climate Migration.

To register, please send a check in the amount of \$35.00 to the Mattapoissett Woman's Club, P.O. Box 1444, Mattapoissett, MA 02739. Please write Great Decisions in the memo. Also, on a separate sheet of paper, please enclose in print, your name, address, phone number, cell number and your email address. We have books for thirty people, and we accept registrations on a first come, first

served basis.

For further information, please contact Ellen Flynn, Past MWC President & Chair of Great Decisions.

## OCT Culinary and Welding Training

Old Colony Technical Institute launches free Culinary and Welding training, including job placement. Career opportunities await you if your goal is to improve your vocational skills, need training and job placement. Old Colony Regional School District has forged an ongoing partnership with MassHire, Greater New Bedford Workforce Board and the New Bedford Career Center. Together, they have successfully coordinated two adult education courses in welding and culinary arts called the Old Colony Technical Institute (OCTI.)

These two hands-on courses will engage you in a basic understanding of these trades and address the shortage of qualified and skilled tradespeople in the fields. As a student, you will have an opportunity to gain vocational hands-on experience, followed by local job placement.

The 200-hour welding program is intended as an introduction to the field of welding. Students will gain knowledge and skills in several welding categories which include Shielded Metal Arc Welding, Gas Metal Arc Welding, Gas Tungsten Arc welding, Stick Welding and Basic Blueprint Reading. They will also receive their OSHA 10 and Hot Works certifications.



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## The Wanderer

The Wanderer is an independently owned and published weekly newspaper that is distributed to the public free of charge throughout Mattapoisett, Marion, Rochester and the surrounding communities.

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 102

Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Office:

55 County Road (Route 6) Mattapoisett

Telephone: 508-758-9055

Web Page: [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)

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[office@wanderer.com](mailto:office@wanderer.com)

News:

[news@wanderer.com](mailto:news@wanderer.com)

Deadlines:

(Display Ads) Friday at 3pm

(News) Monday at noon

(All Others) Tuesday at 10am

Office Hours:

Mon., Thur. & Fri. 9am-3pm

Tues. 9am - 12 noon

Staff:

Paul R. Lopes, Editor

Mick Colageo, News Editor

Sharon Costello, Office Manager

Mary Redman, Advertising Sales

Denise Mello, Advertising Sales

Marilou Newell, Correspondent

Michael J. DeCicco, Correspondent

Shawn Sweet, Social Media Manager

Gail Carignan, Copy Editor

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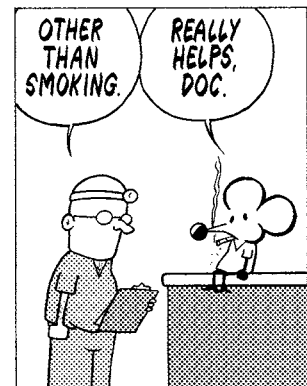
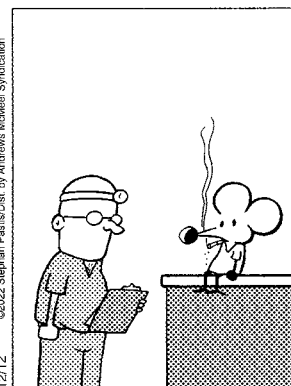
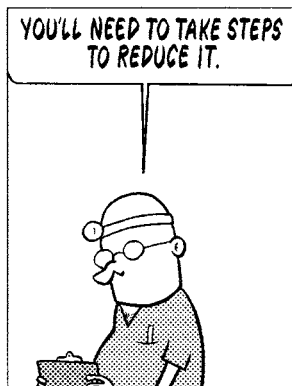
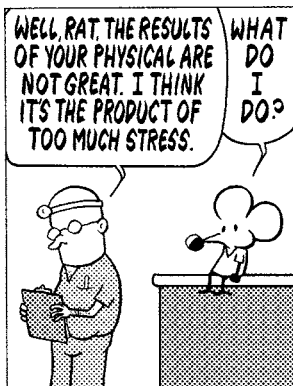
## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

For Mattapoisett  
Volunteers Urgently Needed

508-758-4110



### PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



Students in the 200-hour culinary arts program will gain skills in food handling and safety, meal planning, food preparation and hospitality in a traditional brick-and-mortar restaurant setting. There will be an opportunity to gain up to 25 hours in work experience with the local employers. Upon graduation, students will have completed OSHA 10, Serve-Safe food and Safe-Serve Allergen.

The mandatory orientation at Old Colony for accepted applicants will be **January 10, 2023**, at 4:30. This is a free opportunity, but space is limited to 10 individuals per class, so you must apply ahead. This OCTI program will begin **January 17** through **April 5**. Monday through Thursday from 4:30 to 9:30 pm at Old Colony for a 10-week training, followed by an externship at outside placements. The onsite training will end on **April 5**.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Cynthia Marland at [cmarland@oldcolony.info](mailto:cmarland@oldcolony.info) or call 508.763.8011 ext. 220.

### Heating and Utility Relief for Tri-Town Area Elders

Coastline Elderly Services, Inc. is providing assistance to older people in the communities of Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester who need help with paying the heat or electric bills.

The funds will pay for gas, electric, propane, wood or other heating needs to help reduce the financial burden for many elders who have difficulty with these purchases.

Funding for this project was made possible by the George E. Curtis Charitable Trust.

Please contact the Council on Aging in each town to complete a simple application. Only one older person in the household who qualifies for this program will receive a one-time assistance of \$400.

For the councils on aging in Marion, please call 508- 748-3570; Mattapoisett, 508- 758-4110 and Rochester at 508-763-8723.

### Tri-Town Against Racism

Tri-Town against Racism (TTAR) announces they have developed a system to document discriminatory incidents experienced by community members in the Tri-Town. Collecting this information will help to identify how to best support the Tri-Town Region. The incident report can be completed online, either on a computer or mobile device, anonymously if preferred. Community members can also choose to identify themselves to TTAR in the report. Their personal identifying information will never be shared outside of TTAR. The incident report



NEW CONSTRUCTION  
ADDITIONS  
RENOVATIONS

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[cmm@southcoastdc.com](mailto:cmm@southcoastdc.com)

Christian McCullough / Michael Bichsel - Owners

allows for individuals or families to share their stories to inform local change. Completing the form and sharing your experiences with TTAR will help to make a positive impact! The incident report can be found by visiting this link: [forms.gle/UGEsEmjBCZTEYKX56](https://forms.gle/UGEsEmjBCZTEYKX56).

### Marion Cub Scouts

If your son or daughter enjoys camping, hiking and having fun, Marion Pack 32 and Marion Troop 32 would welcome youth living in Marion and Mattapoisett as well as the surrounding areas (where the scouting schedule in your area may not work for your schedule) to come and learn more about scouting and how to play Gaga Ball at Silvershell Beach Marion. We will be meeting on the lawn and using the Gaga pit (which was created as an Eagle Scout Project in 2019.) Games and instruction will be ongoing, so come anytime between 11 am-1 pm for games and snacks.

In scouting, youth are divided into a Pack (kindergarten to grade 5) that meets on Saturdays and a Troops (Grades 6 to age 18) that meets on Tuesday evenings. Both groups meet at our amazing camp in Marion on Mary's Pond known as Camp Hadley where scouts have full access to the pond and waterfront adventures as well as all nature has to offer.

This year Troop 32 has added an all-female unit, and we are hoping to see our first female Eagle Scouts in town within the next few years.

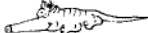
Scouting builds character and instills lifelong values while having amazing adventures and a healthy dose of fun. Come learn all about scouting and Gaga ball Saturday, **September 24** where both the Pack and Troop will be providing some snacks and information. If you would like more information, please contact us at [marioncubscouts@gmail.com](mailto:marioncubscouts@gmail.com) or [beascout.scouting.org](http://beascout.scouting.org). We cannot wait to meet you and play some Gaga ball.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS			See past listing on our website: <a href="http://www.wanderer.com">www.wanderer.com</a>		
Buyer(s)	Seller(s)	Address	City	Date	Price
Water Street Prop Manag	6 Water Street LLC	6 Water St	Mattapoisett	11/28/2022	1,155,000.00





Local Tides					
Day	Date	High		Low	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	December 15	12:29	12:34	5:50	6:34
Friday	December 16	1:14	1:21	6:57	7:29
Saturday	December 17	2:02	2:12	8:13	8:22
Sunday	December 18	2:54	3:10	9:21	9:13
Monday	December 19	3:51	4:12	10:18	10:02
Tuesday	December 20	4:48	5:12	11:08	10:50
Wednesday	December 21	5:42	6:07	11:57	11:38
Thursday	December 22	6:34	6:59		12:47
Friday	December 23	7:25	7:51	12:28	1:40
Saturday	December 24	8:17	8:43	1:21	2:33
Sunday	December 25	9:10	9:37	2:16	3:23
Monday	December 26	10:04	10:33	3:11	4:12
Tuesday	December 27	11	11:31	4:05	5:01
Wednesday	December 28	11:57		5:05	5:57
Thursday	December 29	12:29	12:53	6:27	7:03
Friday	December 30	1:27	1:50	8:24	8:07
Saturday	December 31	2:26	2:48	8:49	7:10
Sunday	January 1	3:24	3:46	10:32	9:33
Phases of the Moon		Last Quarter New Moon First Quarter Full Moon		December 16th December 23rd December 29th January 6th	

 **I Found the Aardvark!**

Each week, hidden somewhere in the pages of *The Wanderer* is a tiny drawing of an aardvark. The little guy you are looking for looks exactly like the one pictured above (but don't put down this page as your answer, there's another one hidden somewhere in this issue).

Once you find the aardvark you can submit your answer on line and if you are right you will get Aardvark Points! You can then use these points to get cool Aardvark Prizes!

To enter visit: [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com) and Click on *I Found the Aardvark*

In the December 8, 2022 edition the Aardvark was on page 37

**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

**CROSSWORD SOLUTION**

C	A	A	N	B	I	O	I	F	E	E	L	S	T	R	O	V	E						
A	C	R	O	B	A	T	S	L	I	N	D	A	L	E	T	H	A	L					
W	H	Y	D	I	D	T	H	E	L	A	D	Y	W	H	O	T	E	S	T				
S	T	E	E	L	Y	A	X	I	S	S	N	A	P	U	S	A							
			A	L	T				I	N	C	A		L	E	A	F	S					
E	A	R	L	Y	V	E	R	S	I	O	N	S	O	F		B	L	A	S	T			
V	I	E		S	H	E	E	T		W	O	N		P	R	O	N	T	O				
A	R	T			O	R	D		S	H	A	R	K		R	O	O	N	E	Y			
D	A	U	B		S	O	F	T	W	A	R	E	P	R	O	G	R	A	M	S			
E	R	N	E	S	T		I	R	A	N			A	D	A	M							
S	M	E	L	T		D	R	A	G	S	T	R	I	P		T	O	L	E	T			
							I	R	O	N			O	R	E	M		M	E	D	A	L	S
H	A	V	E	A	N	A	B	S	O	L	U	T	E	L	Y		E	R	I	K			
I	M	O	V	I	E		O	H	W	O	E		L	I	D		L	E	N	T			
F	I	L	E	T	S		Z	E	N			I	D	L	E	S		D	O	S			
I	N	U	S	E		B	O	R	I	N	G		D	A	Y	A	T		W	O	R	K	
			N	O	N	C	E		T	O	O	T				R	E	A					
P	O	T		O	A	H	U		T	W	A	I	N			F	I	N	E	D			
S	H	E	H	A	D		N	O	T	H	I	N	G	B	E	T	A	T	O	D	O		
S	I	E	S	T	A		O	N	I	C	E		E	C	O	N	O	M	I	C			
T	O	R	T	E	S		F	E	T	E	D		T	K	O		N	E	T	S			

**SCRAMBLERS**

solution

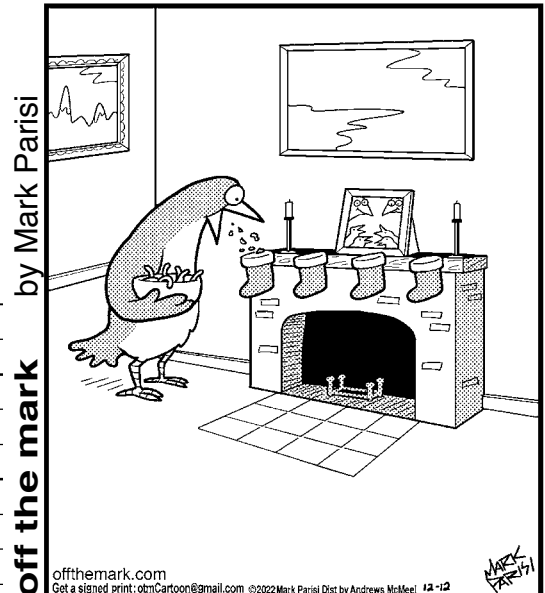
1. Warble 2. Snide  
3. Faint; 4. Serve

**Today's Word**

**STARVED**

**Sudoku Answer**

3	2	1	5	6	7	9	8	4
7	4	8	1	9	2	5	6	3
9	6	5	3	4	8	1	7	2
6	7	2	8	5	3	4	1	9
8	5	4	2	1	9	6	3	7
1	3	9	6	7	4	8	2	5
4	8	6	7	2	5	3	9	1
2	9	3	4	8	1	7	5	6
5	1	7	9	3	6	2	4	8



## Grocery, Dairy, & Frozen

**Domino**  
4 lb. Granulated  
**Sugar**  
**\$3.99**



Mott's  
64 oz. Selected  
Apple Juice..... **2/\$7**

Dole  
46 oz.  
Pineapple Juice..... **2/\$7**

Poland Spring  
Half Liter Bottles, 24 Pack  
Spring Water ..... **\$5.99**

Fever-Tree  
16.9 oz. Selected  
Sparkling Drinks+Dep. **2/\$5**

Swiss Miss  
11.04 oz. 8 ct.  
Hot Cocoa Mix..... **\$2.99**

Kellogg's  
15.9-16.6 oz. Selected  
Raisin Bran ..... **\$4.49**

General Mills  
12-14 oz. Selected  
Chex Cereal ..... **\$4.99**

King Arthur  
5 lb. All-Purpose  
Flour..... **\$5.99**

Karo  
16 oz. Selected  
Corn Syrup ..... **2/\$7**

Nestle Toll House  
10-12 oz. Selected  
Morsels ..... **2/\$6**

Hellmann's  
15-30 oz. Selected  
Mayonnaise ..... **\$5.99**

Kitchen Basics - 32 oz. Selected  
(Excludes Organic) **2/\$6**  
Cooking Stock.....

Heinz - 12 oz. Selected  
(Excludes Fat Free & Onion) **\$2.29**  
Homestyle Gravy.....

Port City  
8 oz. Selected  
Pretzels..... **\$3.99**

Land O Lakes  
16 oz. Selected  
Butter Sticks ..... **\$4.99**

48 oz. Selected  
Breyers..... **\$5.99**

## Quality Meats, Deli & Prepared Foods

Fresh  
**Baby Back  
Pork Ribs**  
**\$3.49**  
lb



Boar's Head  
Sweet Slice, Individual  
Dinner Ham ..... **\$8.99**  
lb

Land O Lakes - White  
American Cheese ..... **\$7.99**  
lb

Boar's Head  
EverRoast Chicken..... **\$11.99**  
lb

Allen's  
Rotisserie Chicken..... **\$9.99**  
ea

## Gourmet Cheese

BelGioioso  
16 oz. Log, Sliced  
Mozzarella Cheese ..... **\$6.99**



## Spirits

750 ml New Zealand  
Sauvignon Blanc  
**White Haven**  
**\$17.99**

Reg Price: \$18.99



### Cider Time!

We have a great selection of  
ciders for you including:

- Stormalong
- Rekordlig
- Citizen Cider
- Carlson Orchards
- Downeast



## Delicious Hot Soups available daily!

Check out our new self-serve Soup Station  
with a variety of soup available every day!  
Prepackaged cold soups also available to  
heat & eat at home.

## Introducing our new... self-serve Drinks Bar

Featuring MA based Fogbuster hot  
coffee & cold drinks on tap including:

- Organic juices
- Nitro brew coffee
- Cold brew coffee
- Unsweetened iced tea
- Hot Chocolate  
also available!



## Bakery

Fresh Baked  
27 oz. 8 Inch Pkg.  
**Apple or  
Cherry Pie**  
**\$6.99**



Store Made  
**Garlic  
Bread**  
**\$3.49**  
ea



SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!





Why wait in line when you can order ahead online! Download the Chow Now app, order and pay online, and skip the line!



Check our new selections of  
**Local & Craft Beer,  
Cider & Wine!**

Visit our new website!  
[www.friendsplumbcorner.com](http://www.friendsplumbcorner.com)



Merry Christmas &  
Happy Hanukkah  
from all of us at  
**Friends' Marketplace**  
at Plumb Corner!

Christmas Eve: 7am-5pm  
Closed Christmas Day

Visit our website:  
[www.friendsplumbcorner.com](http://www.friendsplumbcorner.com)

**565 Rounseville Rd.  
Rochester, MA 02770  
Phone: 508.763.5333**

**Friends'**  
marketplace

We offer curbside pickup!  
Please call the store for details or email:  
[plumb@friendsmarketplace.net](mailto:plumb@friendsmarketplace.net)

**Open Daily: 7am-8pm**

**at PLUMB CORNER**

We reserve the right to limit quantities & correct typographical errors. Illustrations are for design purposes only. Items are while supplies last and no rain checks. Due to current market conditions, item retails may change and products may become unavailable unexpectedly.

**SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, December 16 — Thursday, December 22, 2022**



## BLOCKBUSTER SAVINGS!



Friends'  
Premium Certified  
Black Angus  
Spoon  
Roast  
**\$7<sup>99</sup>**  
lb.



Store Baked  
Turkey  
**\$9<sup>49</sup>**  
lb.



LaCroix  
12 oz. Cans  
12 Pack Selected  
Sparkling  
Water  
**\$5<sup>29</sup>**  
+Dep.



Cabot  
6-8 oz. Selected  
Bars, Cuts, Shredded,  
Shingle Pack, or Slices  
Cheese  
**2/\$7**



Hood  
48 oz. Selected  
Ice Cream  
**\$3<sup>99</sup>**



750 ml California  
Pinot Noir  
Juggernaut  
**\$18<sup>99</sup>**  
Reg Price: \$20.99



## Quality Produce



Fresh  
Navel Oranges..... **\$1<sup>49</sup>**  
lb.

Carlson Orchards  
Half Gallon, Locally Produced  
Apple Cider..... **\$3<sup>99</sup>**

6-16 oz. Pkg. Blackberries, Raspberries, or  
Blueberries..... **\$3<sup>99</sup>**



Fresh  
Asparagus..... **\$3<sup>49</sup>**  
lb.

Bunch  
Celery..... **\$1<sup>99</sup>**  
ea.

Fresh  
Sweet Potatoes..... **\$1<sup>29</sup>**  
lb.

**SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!**